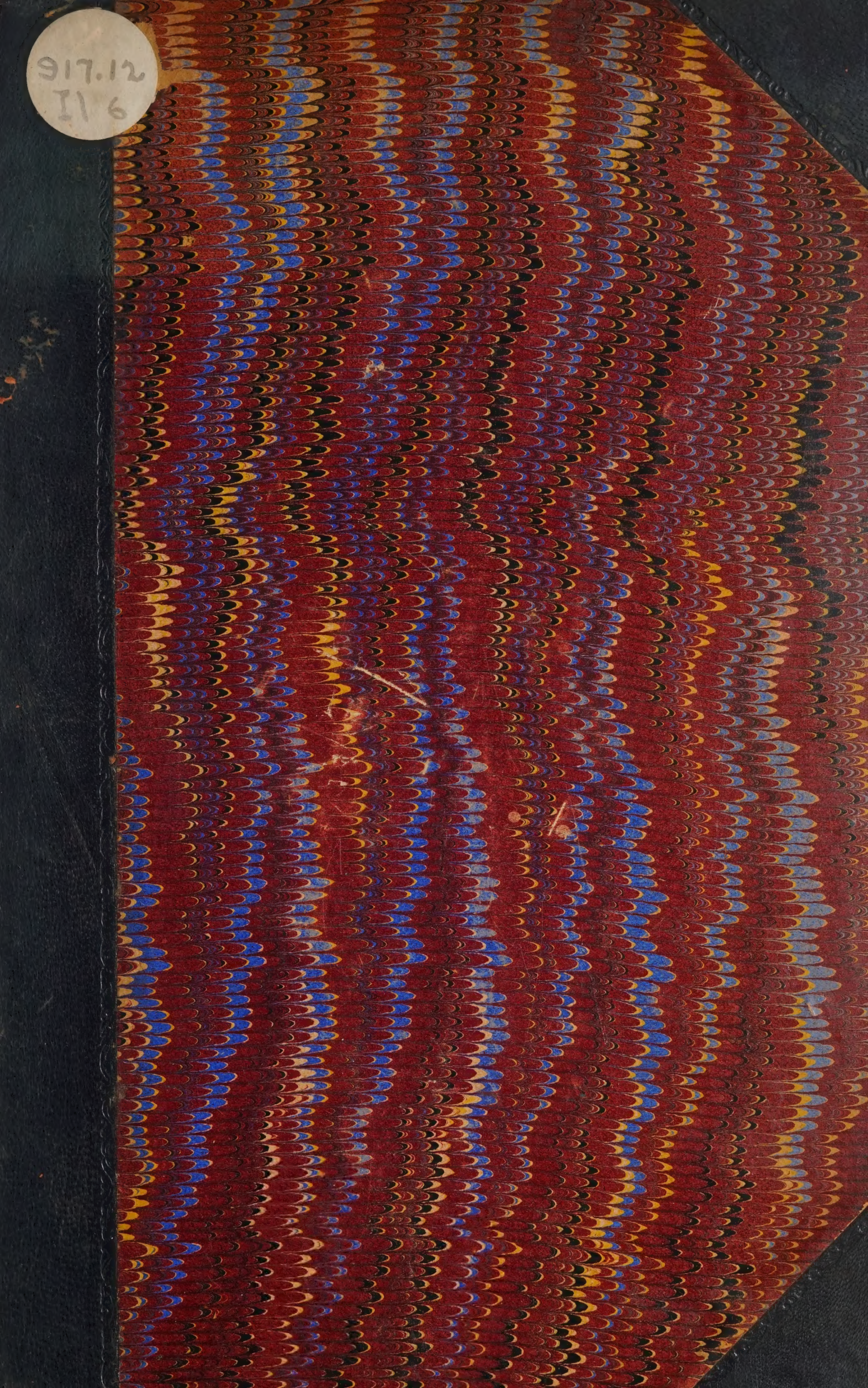


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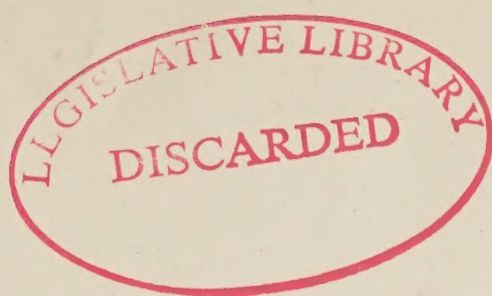
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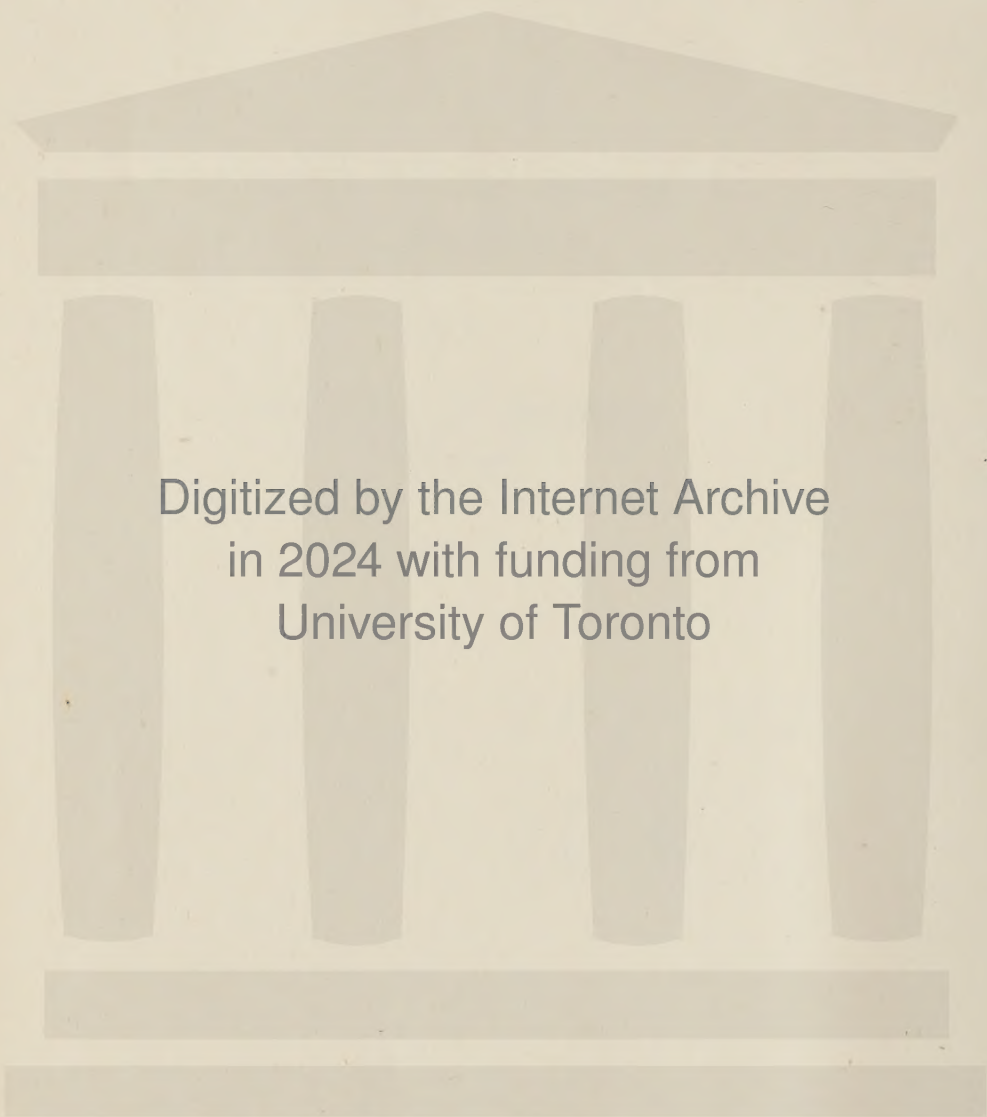
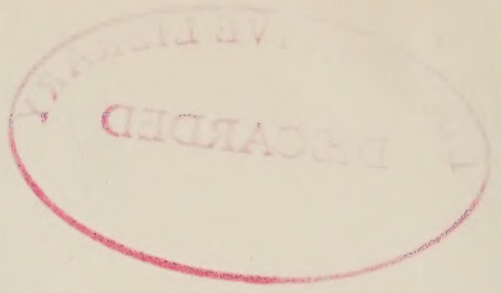


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SECOND EDITION.

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# ILLUSTRATED GUIDE BOOK

(WITH MAP)

— TO —

THE LANDS

— OF —

THE MANITOBA & NORTH-WESTERN  
RAILWAY.

---

COMPILED FROM

GOVERNMENT TOWNSHIP REPORTS, M. & N. W. RAILWAY LAND EXAMINATION REPORTS, AND CORRECTED UP TO DATE BY  
THE FARMERS OF THE DISTRICT.

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WINNIPEG :

THE CALL PRINTING COMPANY, 11 OWEN STREET,

1888.

24



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# Manitoba and North Western Railway Company of Canada.



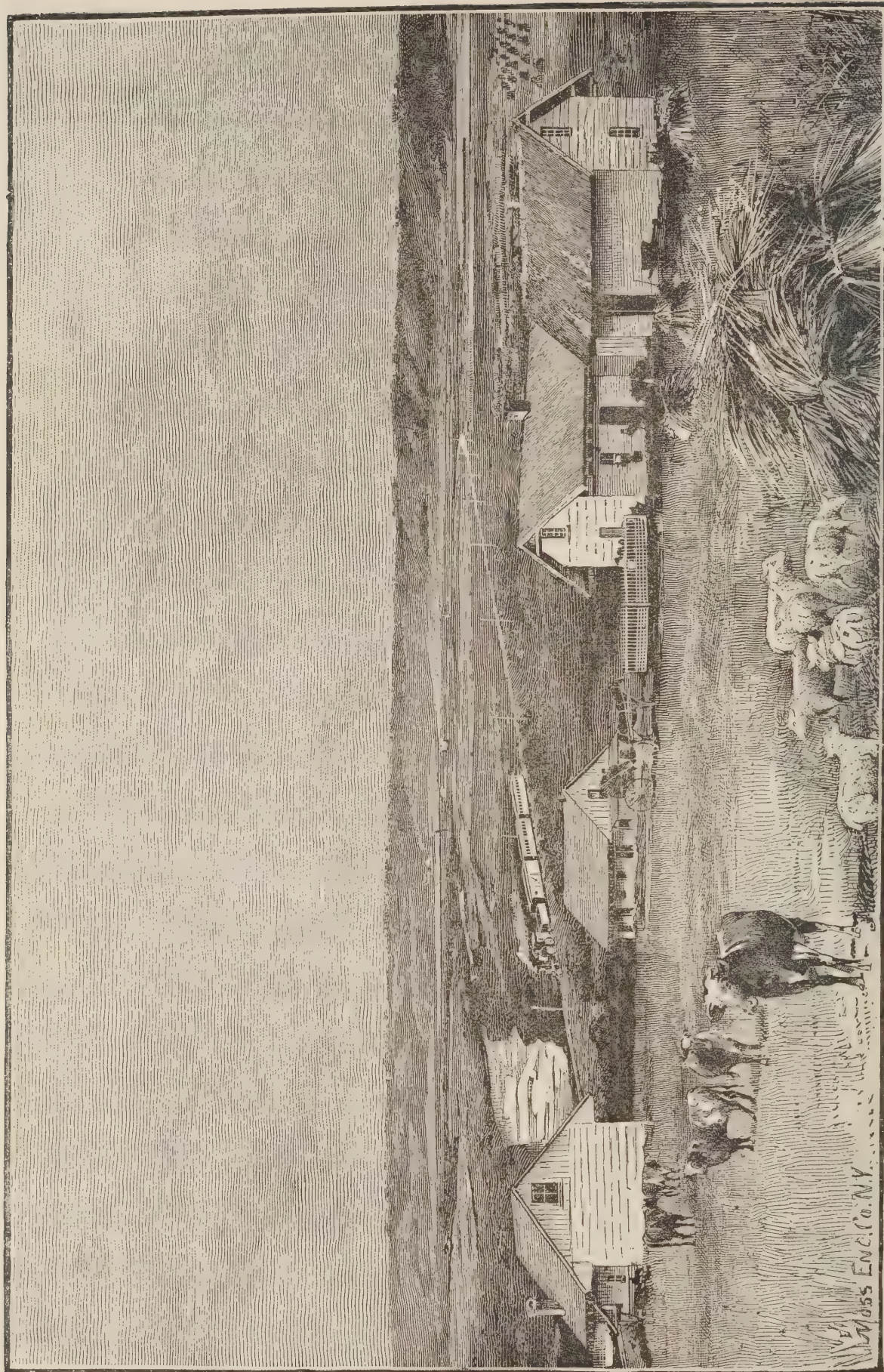
For all information regarding LANDS along the line of the Manitoba and North Western Railway, apply to A. F. EDEN, Land Commissioner, 622 Main Street, WINNIPEG.











FARM NEAR RAPID CITY, ON LINE OF MANITOBA AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.

W. J. L. & Co. N.Y.



## INTRODUCTION.

---

The Manitoba and North-Western Railway Company of Canada is incorporated under an Act of the Parliament of Canada.

It has authority to construct and operate a line of railway from a junction with the Canadian Pacific Railway at the town of Portage la Prairie, 56 miles west of Winnipeg, in the Province of Manitoba, to the main Saskatchewan River, at or near Prince Albert, a distance of about 430 miles.

The Company has already constructed and equipped and has now in operation 180 miles of its road from Portage la Prairie to Langenburg, and a further 50 miles of the road is located.

To assist this Railway the Dominion Government made a grant of land amounting to 6,400 acres per mile, and by Order-in-Council set apart 3,000,000 acres for that purpose.

This land grant consists of some of the finest farming lands in Manitoba and the Northwest.

The nature of the country is undulating, well wooded and watered and the district through which the M. & N. W. Railway is projected to run is known as "The Park Lands of the Fertile Belt." North of the line of Railway a heavy belt of timber extends along the whole distance from Minnedosa to Prince Albert.

The country along the route of the Railway is thickly settled as far west as the Assiniboine River, and land is now being rapidly taken up in the adjoining Province of Assiniboia, beyond the western boundary of the Province of Manitoba, which is formed by the line between ranges 29 and 30.

Several colonization companies have started good settlements which have met with great success. These Companies aid settlers with advances to build houses and make a start at farming. The principal Companies are the Church Colonization Land Society at Churchbridge

and the Commercial Colonization Company between Langenburg and Yorkton.

Prince Albert, the objective point of the Railway is an old and well-settled district, and the town of that name on the North Saskatchewan River is assuming importance as a centre of trade, situated as it is on a navigable river, and surrounded by magnificent country.

It is unnecessary to quote from the many authorities who have written in favor of this stretch of country, as the settlers themselves are the best proof of its adaptability for farming, and they are in the main contented and well to do.

The crop of 1887 was unusually good and has quite established the fact that while the M. & N. W. country is unsurpassed for grazing it is also an excellent grain raising country.

The country is divided into Municipalities as fast as settlement progresses sufficiently to warrant it, and these Municipalities are now working in an organized manner to induce immigration, and are always ready to welcome and assist newcomers to their districts.

Towns and villages are springing up along the line of the Railway and the Company offer at all points a liberal rebate to purchasers of lots for building.

Capitalists will find plenty of opportunities for the safe investment of money to aid the development of this country. Mills, warehouses, stores, &c., are required at many new points along the Railway, and afford a good return for the capital invested.

The Sportsman will also find it to his advantage to pay a visit during the shooting season to this Northwestern country, as there is excellent shooting everywhere, in the woods and on the prairie.

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From the detailed information contained in this book, under the heads of the various townships, the intending settler can select for himself a location or district, and thus avoid the waste of time and expense necessitated by travelling all over the country in search of land.



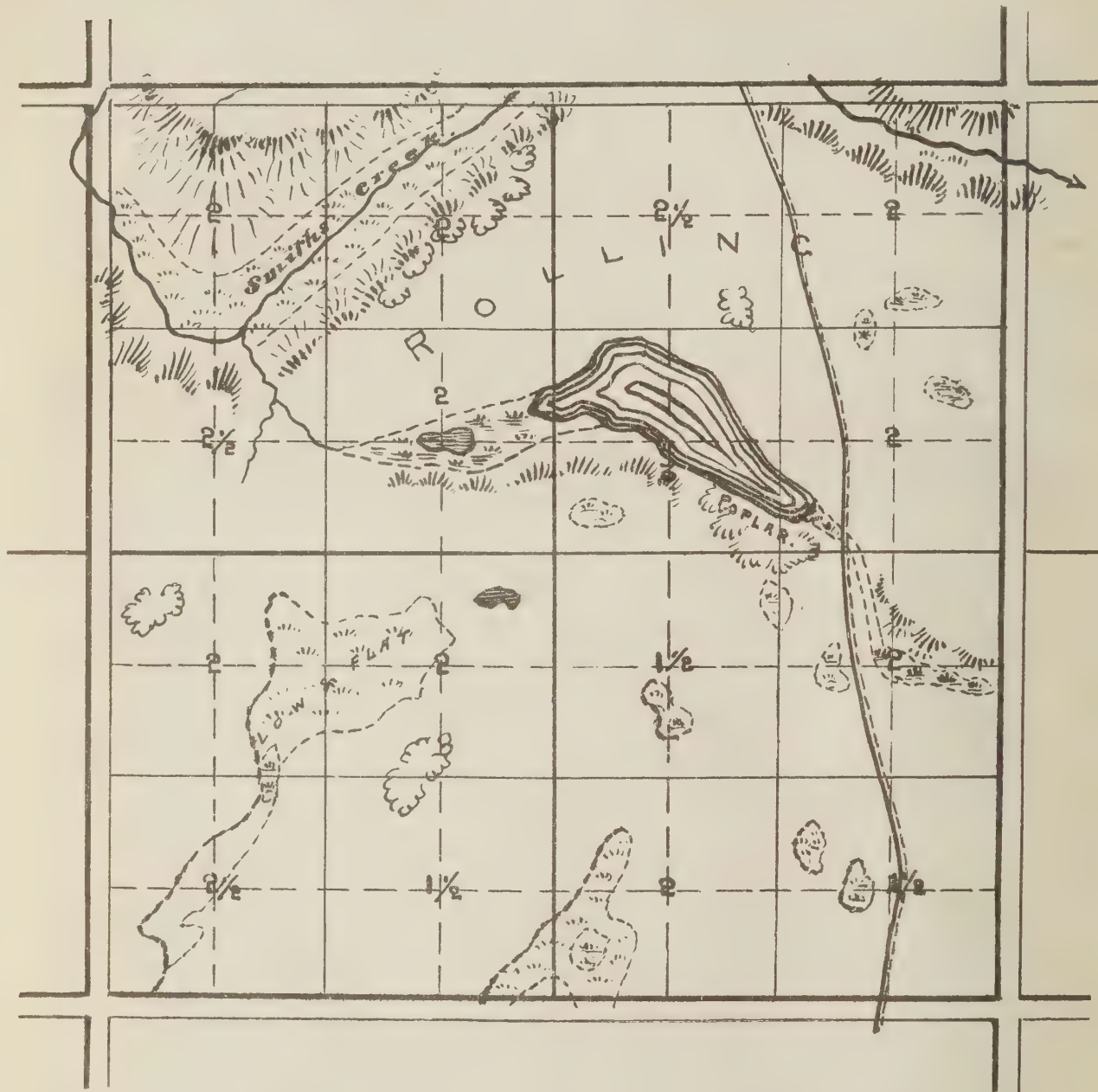


## LAND EXAMINATIONS, M. & N. W. R.

Date August 26<sup>th</sup> 1885

Examiner J. S. Lusk

Sec. 23 Tp. 25 R. 30 W. 15<sup>th</sup> Mer.



It will be observed that each forty-acre lot is marked with a number expressing its relative value, judged by the following rule; No. 1, best obtainable; No. 2, good; No. 3, fair; No. 4, poor; No. 5, worthless; the fractional parts  $1\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $2\frac{1}{2}$ , etc., being used where doubt exists as to which division the tract properly belongs.

The relative value is not what each of the forty-acre lots bear to each other, but when placed in contrast with land A No. 1 in every respect.



## LAND EXAMINATIONS, M. & N. W. RY.

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The lands of this Company have been thoroughly examined by competent men, who made accurate diagrams of each section, showing form and location of every lake, pond, river, creek, and probable depth thereof, marsh, meadow, swamp, bluff, hill or valley, timber, brush, and clear prairie, and also a written description as to surface, soil, &c., as follows:—

### *Section 23, Township 21, Range 30 west of the first P. M.*

**Surface**—Undulating in south; rolling in north. Smith's Creek, which crosses north half is about 7 feet wide and 2 deep; banks are about 30 feet high.

**Soil**—South half, 10 to 20 inches deep rich sandy loam on clay and gravelly clay subsoil. Rates 1. North half on and near banks of creek and lake, and in rolling land between, top soil is sandy, with sandy clay subsoil. Rates  $1\frac{1}{2}$ .

**Timber**—There are on W. & N. of section numerous bluffs of poplar, and willow scrub. S.E. quarter is clear. Would cut about N.W. 50 cords and 750 rails. S.W. 50 cords and 1000 rails. N.E. 30 cords.

**Water**—In lake fair water about 6 feet deep, about a foot of water in one or two small sloughs.

**Grass**—Good growth. In valley of creek a good growth of meadow grass, would cut a considerable quantity of good hay. Also some good hay at west end of lake and around the small sloughs shown.

**Stone, &c.**—Boulders along bed of creek, small stones and gravel in banks.

**Improvements**—None.

**Area of Clear Prairie**—N.W. quarter, 90 acres; N.E. quarter, 125 acres; S.W. quarter, 135 acres; S.E. quarter, 130 acres.

**General Remarks**—S. half very good farm land. N. half is picturesque. E. side land is good, in centre gravelly. Valley of creek on N.W. is good for stock.

---

These diagrams and written descriptions of all the Railway lands can be seen at the offices of the Company,

622 MAIN STREET, WINNIPEG.

NORTH.					
31	32	33	34	35	36
30	29	28	27	26	25
19	20	21	22	23	24
18	17	16	15	14	13
7	8	9	10	11	12
6	5	4	3	2	1
SOUTH.					
WEST.					EAST.

### SYSTEM OF SURVEY.

The country is laid off in townships six miles square, containing thirty-six sections of 640 acres each, which are again subdivided into quarter sections of 160 acres.

The sections are apportioned as follows:

OPEN FOR HOMESTEADS AND PRE-EMPTIONS:

2, 4, 6, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36.

BELONGING TO M. & N. W. RAILWAY:

1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23, 25, 27, 31, 33, 35.

HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY; 8 and 26.

SCHOOL SECTIONS: 11 and 29, Reserved by Government for school purposes.



INTENDING SETTLERS should get Through Tickets to one of the stations on the line of the M. & N. W. Railway, and thus secure the advantage of the Through Rate from the point of departure.

### Stations and Distances on the Manitoba and North-Western Railway.

	MILES.
<b>PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE</b> .....	—
MACDONALD .....	10
WESTBOURNE .....	17
WOODSIDE .....	27
GLADSTONE .....	35
MIDWAY .....	43
ARDEN .....	52
NEEPAWA .....	61
BRIDGE CREEK .....	70
<b>MINNEDOSA</b> .....	79
RAPID CITY (via S. & W. Railway) .....	94
BASSWOOD .....	89
NEWDALE .....	97
STRATHCLAIR .....	106
<b>SHOAL LAKE</b> .....	115
KELLOE .....	123
SOLSGIRTH .....	130
<b>BIRTLE</b> .....	138
FOX WARREN .....	145
BINSCARTH .....	155
RUSSELL (on Branch Line) .....	166
HARROWBY .....	168
LANGENBURG .....	180

To find distance from Winnipeg, add to above distances 56 miles.

—o—

For tickets and full information as to the country and how to reach it, apply to any Steamship Agent. Pamphlets and other books descriptive of the country, its Seasons, Crops, &c., sent free on application.

# Manitoba and North-Western Railway Company

## OF CANADA.

---

### LAND REGULATIONS.

---

The lands within the Grant to the Railway Company will be disposed of under the following regulations :

#### PRICE.

The price of land, may be obtained from the Land Commissioner at Winnipeg, and is regulated by its location and the quality of the soil.

#### TERMS OF PAYMENT.

If paid for in full at the time of purchase, a deed will be given, but the purchaser may pay one-sixth in cash, and the balance in five annual instalments, with interest at six per cent. per annum.

#### GENERAL CONDITIONS.

All sales are subject to the following general conditions.

1. All improvements placed upon the land purchased to be maintained thereon until final payment has been made.
2. All taxes and assessments lawfully imposed upon the land or improvements to be paid by the purchaser.
3. The Company reserves the right to take, without remuneration, a strip or strips of land 100 feet wide, to be used for right of way of the Railway or any of its branches, wherever the same shall be located.

For further particulars apply to

A. F. EDEN,  
Land Commissioner.

WINNIPEG, 1st January, 1888.

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#### AGENCIES OF THE M. & N. W. RAILWAY LAND DEPARTMENT.

Settlers can purchase land from the agents of the Company at the following places, but the sales require confirmation by the Head Office, from which office all receipts for payments are issued :

- GLADSTONE—Lands in the Municipality of Westbourne.  
 ARDEN—Lands in the Municipality of Lansdowne.  
 NEEPAWA—Lands in the Municipality of Rosedale.  
 MINNEDOSA—Lands in the Municipalities of Odanah, Clanwilliam, Saskatchewan, and Harrison.  
 SHOAL LAKE—Lands in the Municipalities of Strathclair, Shoal Lake, and Rossburn.  
 BIRTLE—Lands in the Municipality of Birtle.  
 BINSARTH—Lands in the Municipalities of Silver Creek, Russell, Shell River and Boulton.

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#### DOMINION GOVERNMENT LAND OFFICES.

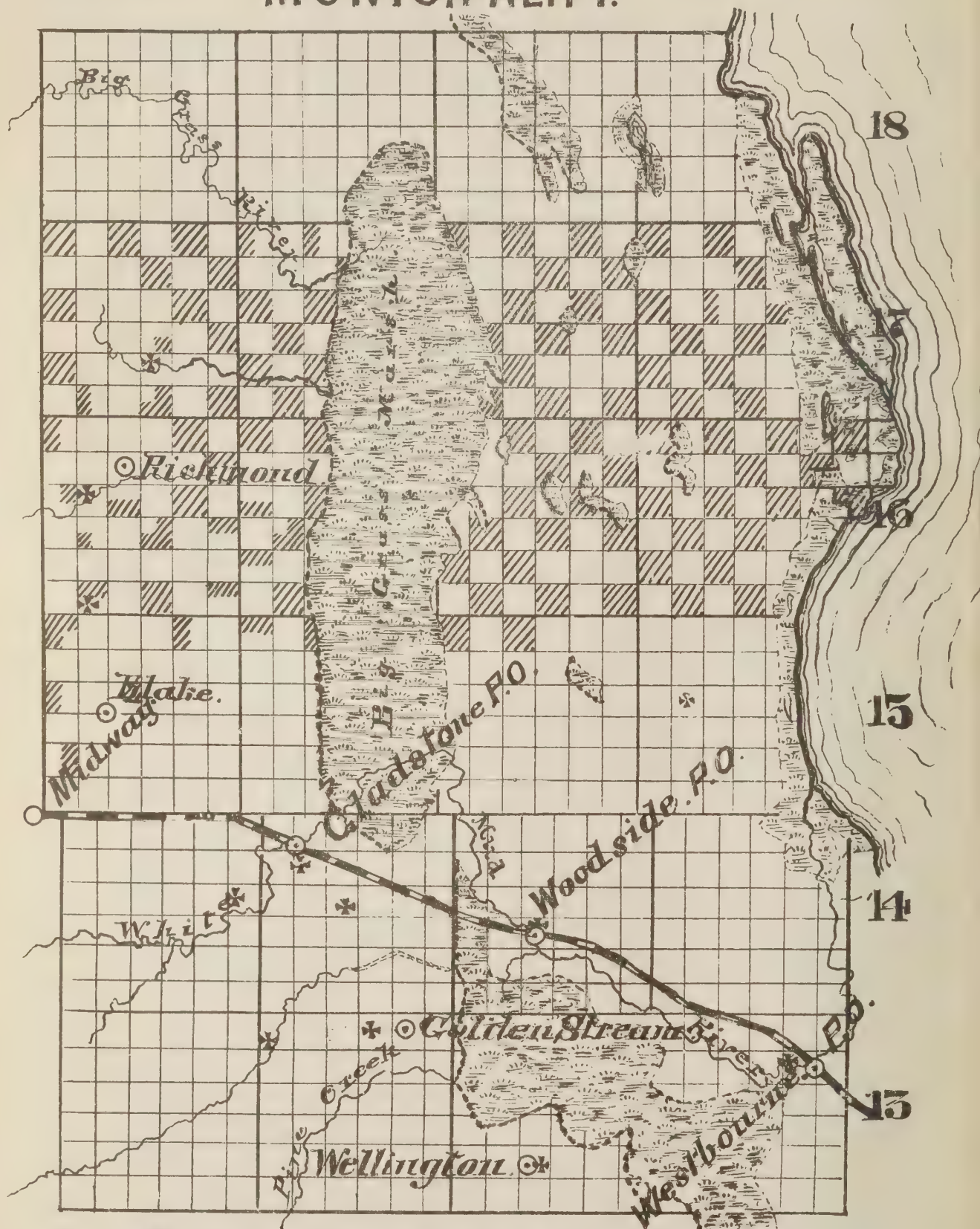
- MINNEDOSA—Little Saskatchewan District, Townships north of and including 13, Ranges 9 to 22.  
 BIRTLE—Birtle District, Townships north of and including 13, Ranges 23 to 2nd P.M.  
 REGINA—QuAppelle Districts, Townships 10 to 23, Ranges 1 to 30 west of 2nd P.M.  
 TOUCHWOOD—Touchwood District, Townships 24 to 31, Ranges 1 to 30 west of 2nd P.M.

NOTE.—Maps showing settlement, list of lands open for entry along the line of the Manitoba & North-Western Railway, and all other information can be had by applying at the office of the Company, 622 Main Street, Winnipeg.





PART OF  
**WESTBOURNE.**  
 MUNICIPALITY.



12. \* School Ho 11. \* Post Offices 10.



M & N-W-RY Lands for Sale.

9.



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# REPORTS ON TOWNSHIPS.

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COMPILED FROM DOMINION GOVERNMENT SURVEYORS' REPORTS

—AND—

MANITOBA AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY LAND EXAMINATION REPORTS

—AND—

CORRECTED UP TO DATE BY THE FARMERS OF THE DISTRICT.

---

## MUNICIPALITY OF WESTBOURNE.

This Municipality consists of the whole of the County of Westbourne, Rges. 9 to 12 north of and including Tp. 13. It is a well-known district for cattle raising and contains several large cattle farms, notably those of Perley, Sanford and Lynch. The M. & N. W. Railway runs through the southern portion of this Municipality. In this Municipality the stations of Westbourne, Woodside and Gladstone are situated within its boundaries. There are six post offices and twelve school houses in this district. Church services are held in the school houses throughout the Municipality. It is fairly well settled, but a great deal of good land is still open for homesteading. Lake Manitoba forms the eastern boundary of the Municipality. In this lake fish are very plentiful and the fish industry has now assumed large proportions, the headquarters of this trade being on the White Mud River. The big grass marsh is situated in range 11, and is about five miles wide by twenty long; but a good system of drainage has been inaugurated by the Provincial Government, which is readily draining this marsh into good hay lands. The Town of Gladstone, its principal place of importance, is situated on section 29-14-11. This place claims a population of 300 and supports a newspaper, the *Gladstone Age*. It has English, Presbyterian and Methodist churches, a public school, a grist mill, two grain storehouses, several general stores and two hotels. This is a

point well known for shipping cattle and grain, and the beef from this district commands a good price. Further particulars regarding this Municipality will be found in the Westbourne Municipal Guide, which is to be published in March, 1888. This Municipality is also a good district for horse-raising, and Phillips' ranch has been very successful in breeding horses. Splendid hay; good water; plenty of timber.

---

TP. 13, RGE. 9.—The White Mud River runs through the northern quarter of this township and is bordered with oak. The soil is of a light, loamy character. The station and P.O. of WESTROURNE are on section 25 and school house on S.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 26.

TP. 14, RGE. 9.—This township is well suited for agricultural purposes. The timber is chiefly small poplar, through which frequent fires have passed. It is in general valuable only for roofing houses and firewood, but towards the north there is some fit for lumber. The railway touches the extreme south-west of the township.

TP. 15, RGE. 9.—Lies on the western shore of Lake Manitoba. The soil appears to be mixed with shale and gravel. Along the Big Grass Marsh there is a large quantity of good hay lands. The southern part of this township is good. The east part is broken by Lake Manitoba. In the northern part is quite a forest of really first-class poplar. Lakeside school house is on S.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 20.

TP. 16, RGE. 9.—The soil, although shallow, is of very good quality especially on the lake shore where there is some excellent hay land. Along the southern and part of the western outlines first-class poplar is to be found in good quantity. The greater part of the rest of the township is covered with dead poplar, with willow brush, together with occasional bluffs of green poplar. In the west there are numerous bad muskegs.

TP. 17, RGE. 9.—Is similar to the preceding township in soil and timber.

TP. 18, RGE. 9.—Lies on the western shore of Lake Manitoba. The soil and timber are the same as the two preceding townships.



TP. 13, RGE. 10.—The north half is marshy, the south half is well settled. The water in Squirrel Creek which flows through the south westerly part is very good and the land on its banks is fertile. Squirrel Creek school is on S.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 9, and Wellington P.O. on S.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  9.

TP. 14, RGE. 10.—This township offers great inducement to the settler. Its soil is in most places a very rich and deep black mould resting on a marl subsoil. There is plenty of timber for fencing and fuel. For building purposes, good poplar and oak timber may be obtained along the banks of the White Mud River. The railway runs through the south half of this township, and Woodside Station is on Section 16. There is a P. O. at same place. Woodside school house is on Section 10.

TP. 15, RGE. 10.—The western part is broken by the Big Grass Marsh. The remainder is land of second-class quality, near the marsh being alternate ridges of gravel and long narrow muskegs. To the eastward it is better, but however, not first-class for farming purposes. Near the north-east corner there is some fine poplar timber.

TP. 16, RGE. 10.—The surface, soil and timber are the same as in the foregoing township.

TP. 17, RGE. 10.—Like the other townships in the vicinity, is composed of bluffs of green poplar and small patches of hay land and of poplar woods which were burnt over some few years ago. To the west is the Big Grass Marsh, along the edge of which is a large quantity of excellent hay land. The soil, though perhaps not superior arable land, would be well adapted for pasturage.

TP. 18, RGE. 10.—The soil is shallow and there is a good deal of marsh land in this township. Abundance of poplar timber.

TP. 13, RGE. 11.—The surface is gently undulating; the soil, sandy loam. Good water can be obtained by digging. The township is well timbered. Silver Stream school house is on S.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 31 and Golden Stream school house on S.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 34, and Golden Stream post office on N.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of 35.

TP. 14, RGE. 11.—Is well suited for settlement. The soil is excellent. Water is abundant and good. Timber is plentiful and distributed in belts and groves all through the township. The White Mud River passes along the northern part of the township. A chain of small lakes, the water of which is good, stretches along the southern part. The railway runs through the north half of this township, and the Town of Gladstone, with post office and school, is on section 30. Palestine school house is on S.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  section 21.

TP. 15, RGE. 11.—Is well adapted for agricultural purposes, having excellent hay land. Portions of the ground are covered with clumps of willow bushes and poplars.

TP. 16, RGE. 11.—The northern part of this township is mostly prairie—the southern part alternate clumps of willow, poplar, and patches of prairie. Soil good for agricultural purposes. About half of this township is a marsh. A great deal of drainage has been done, and the marsh is drying up and making excellent hay land.

TP. 17, RGE. 11.—The easterly half lies in Big Grass Marsh. The southern part is beautiful prairie. The northerly is traversed by the Big Grass River, whose banks are lined with thick oak, elm and maple, etc., providing a considerable quantity of wood for fuel and other purposes, and making the township a desirable location for the intending settler.

TP. 18, RGE. 11.—The Big Grass River runs through the south-west corner, where the soil is very good. The rest of the township is covered with poplar and in the north-east there are some muskegs.

TP. 13, RGE. 12.—The soil is generally very good, being sandy loam. The south-west is low and swampy. There is a good deal of scrub in this township.

TP. 14, RGE. 12.—This township is well adapted for settlement. The soil is a rich loam, mostly dry and arable. The White Mud River flows across the township from west to east. The water is excellent in quality. Timber is abundant—suitable for building and fencing purposes. The railway line runs across the north boundary of this township. Livingston school house is on N.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  section 24.



TP. 15, RGE. 12.—Is generally well adapted for agricultural purposes. In the south-west corner of the township there is a considerable quantity of wood land. The railway runs through the southern tier of sections. Blake school house is on S.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  section 22, and Blake P. O. is on N.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  section 16.

TP. 16, RGE. 12.—Is generally well adapted for agricultural purposes. In the centre of the township there is a large belt of heavy poplar timber. Richmond P.O. is on S.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  section 28, Soudan school house on S.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  section 5 and Richmond school house on N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  section 20.

TP. 17, RGE. 12.—Is well watered by a small river, and the soil is of the best quality. There is scarcely enough of wood, but a thrifty young growth, at present from six to ten feet in height, will, if protected from fire, in a few years make ample provision for fuel and farming purposes. Tupper school house is on NW  $\frac{1}{4}$  section 10.

TP. 18, RGE. 12.—The soil of this township is good, more especially in the southern parts, and it contains plenty of wood. It is traversed by Big Grass River, which supplies excellent water.

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## MUNICIPALITY OF OSPREY.

This Municipality is situated in the County of Beautiful Plains, and consists of Tp. 13, Rge. 13; Tp. 13, Rge. 14; Tp. 14, Rge. 14; and the E  $\frac{1}{2}$  Tps. 13 and 14, Rge. 15. This district lies just south of the M. & N. W. Ry. and its market town of Neepawa is situated close to the north-west corner of the Municipality. This Municipality is noted for its grain growing qualities, the grain from this district being of particularly good quality. It has two post offices and three schools, is well watered by the White Mud River, well wooded, and contains good hay lands.

---

TP. 13, RGE. 13.—The surface is broken by hills and the township is well wooded and well supplied with water and hay. Soil—sandy loam.

TP. 13, RGE. 14.—Is well wooded. Surface principally sand hills. There are a good many swamps.

TP. 14, RGE. 14.—The soil is of an inferior quality. There are some valleys of second class land, but in the south the township is broken by sand hills. The surface partly prairie and partly timbered with poplar and oak, in some places of good quality. There are many swamps, but no streams. Drumfries school house is on S.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  section seven, and Union school house on N.E. section thirty.

EAST-HALF OF TP. 13, RGE. 15.—Soil of good quality sandy loam with some groves of poplar. Two branches of the White Mud traverse the township and water is readily obtained by digging. Oberon Post Office is on N.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 3, and Osprey Post Office on S.E. of section 34.

EAST-HALF OF TP. 14, RGE. 11.—Is well watered by White Mud River and its branches. The soil is generally of a rich sandy nature, excellent for the growth of grain and root crops. About one-third is wooded with poplar and other kinds of wood of small growth. Neepawa school house is on N.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  section 27.



Midway.

# OSPREY.

MUNICIPALITY.

14

\* School Houses.

○ Post Offices.



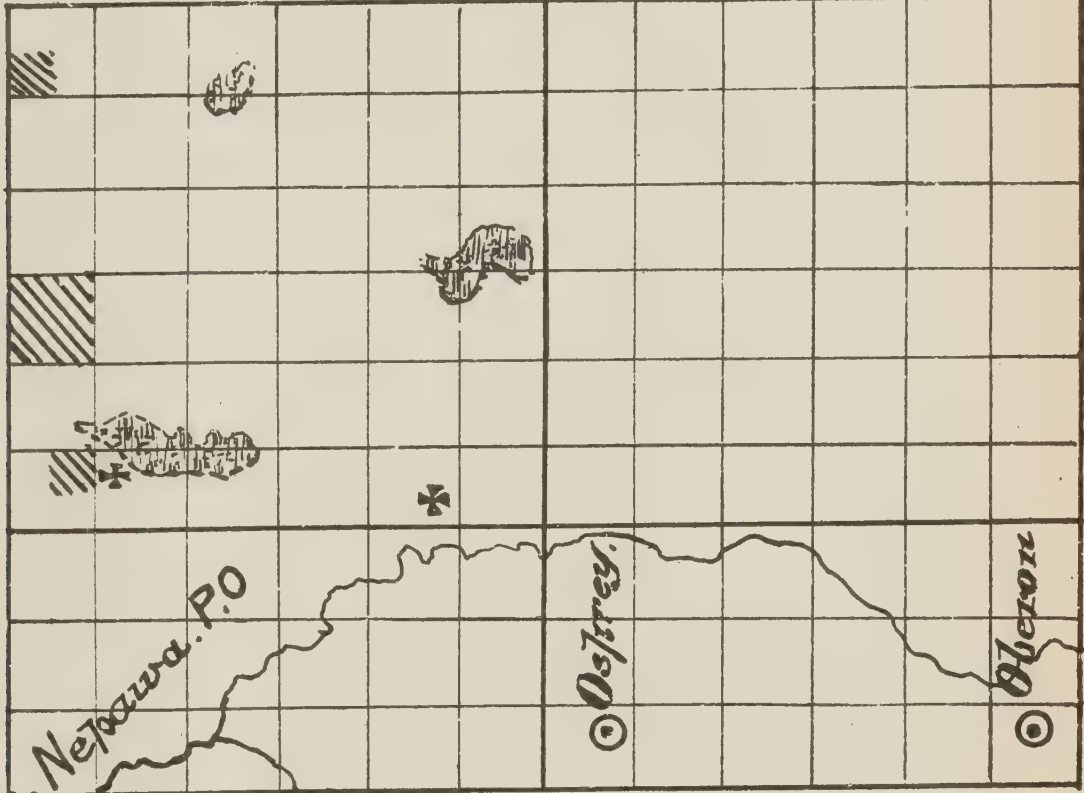
M&N-W-R-Y Lands for Sale.

13

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14

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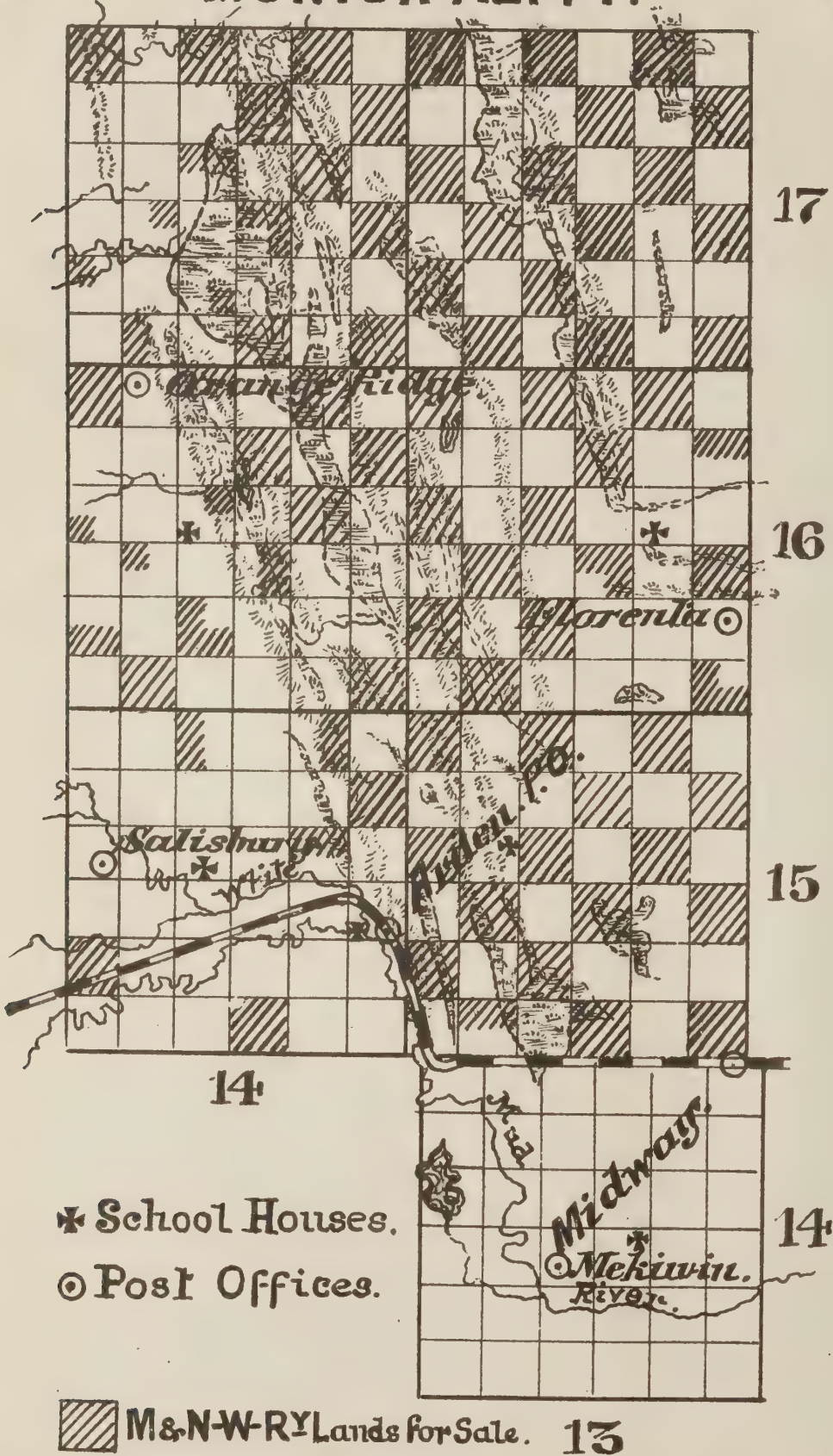
Nebraska P.O.

Osprey.

Osprey.

# LANDSDOWNE.

## MUNICIPALITY.





## MUNICIPALITY OF LANSDOWNE.

This Municipality is in the County of Beautiful Plains and consists of townships 15 to 44, ranges 13 and 14, and township 14, range 13. The M. & N. W. Ry. runs through the southern portion of this Municipality and Midway and Arden stations are situated within its boundaries. The southern portion of the Municipality is well settled. The Municipality contains five post offices and six schools. The character of the country is rolling prairie, well wooded, and there is a good quantity of hay and some very good grain-growing land in the district. Some gravel ridges run in a northerly direction across the township. The Railway Company have a large quantity of land for sale in this Municipality on easy terms. Mekiwin township has become celebrated for its vegetables and farm produce. A visit to the district will demonstrate to any practical agriculturist the stock-raising capabilities. In every part of the Municipality may be found hay of good quality, the townships to the north being almost entirely devoted to cattle. Among the larger interests may be mentioned the Phillips, Wilson and McKenzie ranches. Lansdowne has abundance of wood within its own bounds, or within easy distance, while the water supply—an important item—is good all over. The White Mud River runs across the Municipality and there are numerous creeks and coulees in almost every township.

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TP. 14, RGE. 13.—Is very well adapted for agricultural purposes. The soil in the valley of White Mud River, which crosses the township diagonally, from west to east, is very rich and timber can be found in sufficient quantity. Mekiwin P.O. is on S.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  section 16. MIDWAY station is on N.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  36. The railway line runs along the north of this township. Ayr school house is on S.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  section 15.

TP. 15, RGE. 13.—The soil is generally a light, sandy loam. The land is in most places level. A few gravel ridges run in a north-westerly direction across it. On sections six, seven and eighteen there is a considerable quantity of poplar. The timber in the rest of the

township is suitable for fencing and fuel. The White Mud River passes through section six. It contains an abundant supply of excellent water. The railway runs along the south line of sections. Roseridge school house is on N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  section 20.

TP. 16, RGE. 13.—The soil is light, sandy loam. In many places in the north-west quarter of the township the soil does not exceed six inches in depth, the sub-soil being composed of gravel and boulders. The timber is of very little value except for fuel. Fencing and building timber can be procured at the Riding Mountain, some fifteen miles distant. Florenta P.O. is on N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  section 12. Florence school house is on S.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  section 23.

TP. 17, RGE. 13.—The soil is of light, sandy loam. The land, excepting two small gravel ridges which run in a north-westerly direction across it, is level. The marshes produce good hay.

TP. 18, RGE. 13.—The township is low and level, nearly one-third being marsh and hay land. Soil is light, sandy loam.

TP. 15, RGE. 14.—Is excellent farming land. The White Mud River, with several other small streams passing eastward through this township, give an unlimited supply of excellent water. The marshy land along the streams produces a rank growth of hay. Large oak, ash, elm and maple are found skirting the banks of the White Mud River. Salisbury P.O. is on S.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  section 19, and Salisbury school house is on S.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  section 21. ARDEN station, school and P.O. is on section 13. The railway runs across this township.

TP. 16, RGE. 14.—West of the Beautiful Plain ridge. This township is all excellent farming land; and owing to its proximity to the Riding Mountain, where fencing and building timber can be procured is well suited for settlement. Glenholme school house is on S.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  section 21, and Orange Ridge P.O. is on N.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  section 32.

TP. 17, RGE. 14.—The westerly half of this township contains some excellent farming land. It is nearly all covered with rose and willow bushes and small poplar. The eastern portion of the township is intersected with small gravel ridges. The soil is a light and sandy



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loam. This portion of the township has no timber of any value, except for fuel. A large marsh is formed near the centre of the township, by the spreading out of the waters of two large streams flowing eastward from the Riding Mountain. These streams supply an abundance of excellent water. Portions of the marshy land produce an excellent growth of hay. Building timber can be obtained at a distance of about two miles.

TP. 18, RGE. 14.—Except a few gravel ridges the surface is low and level. Nearly one-fourth of the township is marsh and hay land. The waters of several streams from the Riding Mountain pass through it.

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## MUNICIPALITY OF GLENDALE.

This Municipality is situated in the County of Beautiful Plains and consists of the W.  $\frac{1}{2}$  of Tps. 13 and 14, Rge. 15, and Tps. 13 and 14 in Rge. 16. This Municipality is noted for its grain growing qualities and the wheat from this district commands the highest price on the market. It contains two Post Offices and six school houses and is well settled throughout. The M. & N. W. Ry. runs along the northern boundary, and the Station and Town of Neepawa are situated in the north-east corner. This Town, which is on the south-east quarter of Sec. 33, Tp. 14, Rge. 15, is the County Town and has the County buildings. The population is about 300. There are Methodist and Presbyterian Churches in the Town and a Public School. Several good stores and hotels and the Town is a first class market for produce. Three grain warehouses are situated at the Station and in 1888 it is expected that a Roller Flour Mill and Elevator will be built at that point. At present Hamilton's Grist Mill at the Village is turning out a good sample of flour. A weekly newspaper, the *Neepawa Register*, is published here. The White Mud River, a stream of good water, traverses the northerly tier of sections. Besides the Churches in the Town there is an English Church and a Presbyterian Church in Tp. 14, Rge. 16.

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WEST-HALF TP. 13, RGE. 15.—The soil is of good quality. Surface rolling prairie. A branch of the White Mud River traverses the Township. Oberon school house is on S.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 17.

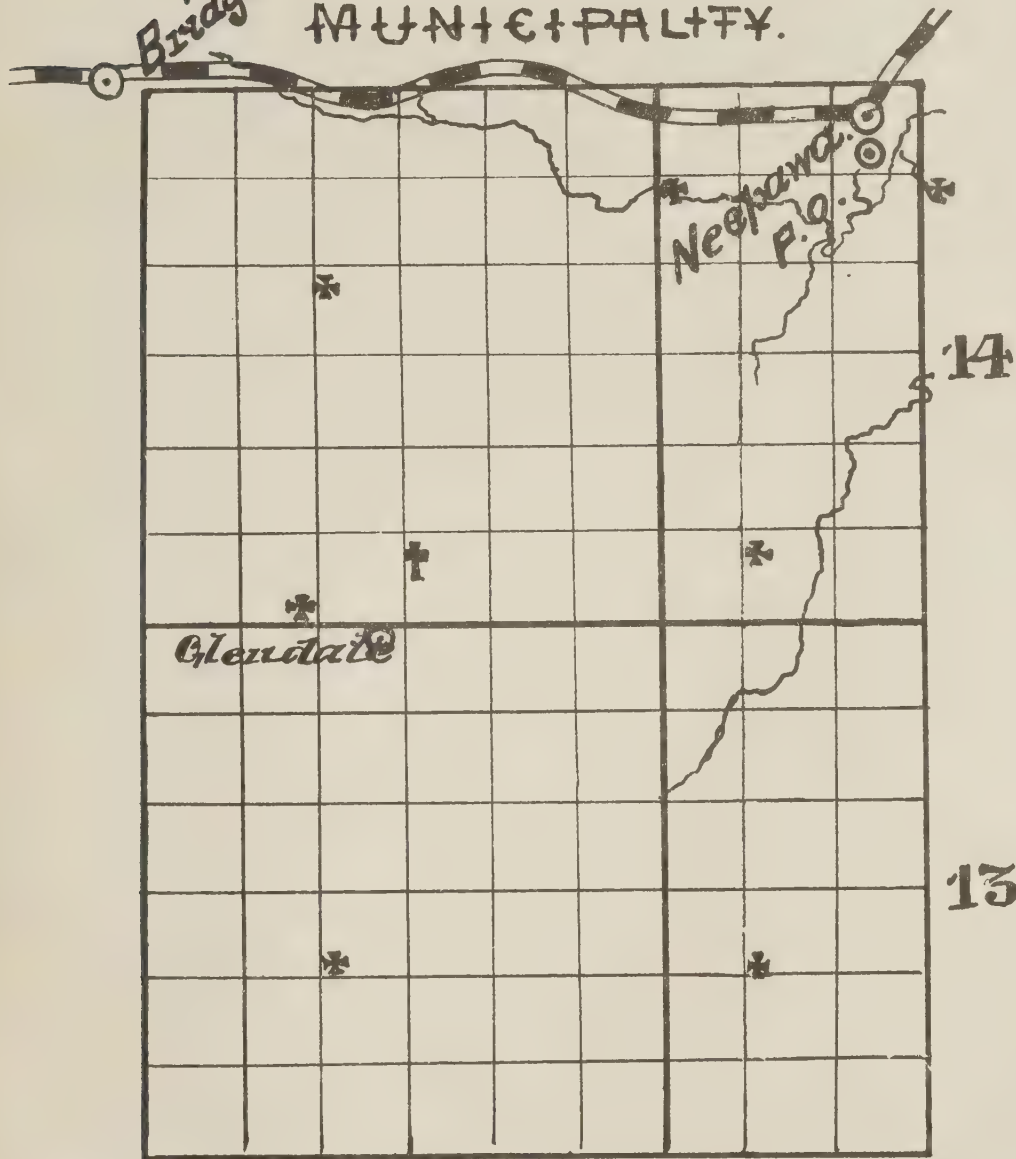
WEST-HALF TP. 14, RGE. 15.—Is well watered by White Mud River and its branches. The soil is generally of a rich sandy nature, excellent for the growth of grain and root crops. About one-third is well wooded with poplar and other kinds of wood of small growth. Neepawa station and Post Office are on section 33. Stony Creek school house is on N.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  section 30 and Osprey school house on N.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  section 5. The Manitoba & North-Western Railway runs across the northern boundary.



# GLENDALE.

Bridge Creek

MUNICIPALITY.



M&N-W-R-Y

16

Lands for Sale.

⊙ Post Offices.

✕ School Houses.

† Churches.

15





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TP. 13, RGE. 16.—Is high rolling prairie. Soil black loam with clay subsoil. Water is easily obtainable. Glendale Post Office is on N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 33. Belton school house on S.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 16.

TP. 14, RGE. 16.—The surface is rolling and the most part of it clear prairie, except on the western side, where it is well wooded with small poplar, cherry and willow. The soil throughout is good. The Stony Creek runs through the north-east sections. Its water is good, and water can be had in any of the sections by digging. Glendale school house is on N.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  section 21, and Gordon school house on S.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 5. There is an English church on section 3 and Presbyterian church on section 9. The M. & N. W. Ry. runs across the northern boundary.

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### MUNICIPALITY OF ROSEDALE.

This Municipality is in the County of Beautiful Plains and consists of townships 15 to 44, ranges 15 and 16. The M. & N. W. Ry. runs along the southern line of this Municipality and Bridge Creek station is on the south-west corner. Its market town is Neepawa. It contains three post offices and four school houses, and church services are held in most of the school houses. The southern portion of the municipality is well settled. The northern portion runs through the Riding Mountain up to and beyond Lake Dauphin. The Riding Mountains are well wooded and provide plenty of wood for the settler. The southern portion of the Municipality is well known as a grain-growing district, and cattle thrive well in the valley of Stony Creek, where there is an abundance of hay.

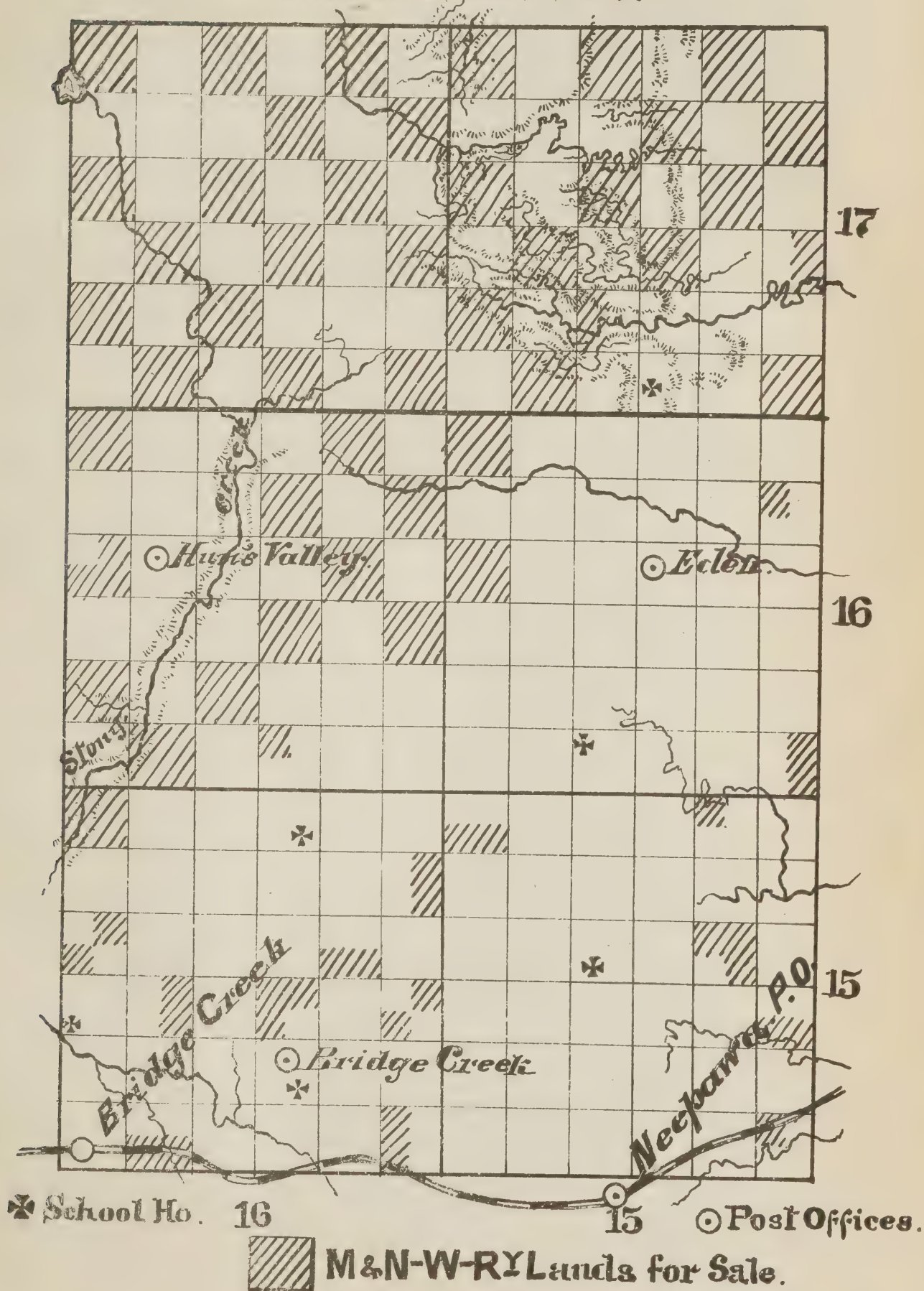
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TP. 15, RGE. 15.—The soil is of a sandy loam, traversed from north to south by high sand ridges, covered with short grass, high willow, rose bush, hazel, and a few clumps of poplar. There are several creeks, which are dry during the summer. The railway runs across the south-east corner of this township. Mountain View school house is on S.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  section 21.

TP. 16, RGE. 15.—This township is situated at the eastern base of the Riding Mountain, taking in a considerable portion of the mountain in the north-west. Sections 19, 20, 29, 30, 31 and 32 are heavily wooded with large maple and poplar, fit for all building purposes, with large grey willow and a few tamarac and stunted oak. These woods are made almost impenetrable by wild hop, ivy and grape vines, raspberry bushes, etc. The township generally is covered with a dense growth of hazel, willow, rosebush and cherry. Vetches abound. It is well watered by many small brooks, affording the best of water, which can also be obtained almost anywhere with very little digging. The soil is a rich black loam, with a sub-stratum of white clay. The township is traversed from north-west to south-east by several high gravel ridges, covered with a short grass. Some



# PART OF ROSEDALE. MUNICIPALITY.







good, large patches of hay land are to be found in the bottoms. This township is one of the most desirable in this country for the purposes of settlement—good wood, soil, hay and water. Eden P.O. is on NW  $\frac{1}{4}$  section 22. Acton school house is on NW  $\frac{1}{4}$  section 4.

TP. 17, RGE. 15.—The two eastern tiers of sections are low—generally wet—covered with a dense thicket of alder and willow, the soil being rich and deep. In the third tier of sections the Riding Mountains begin to rise at a steep incline for about half a mile, on the crest of which is a plateau, generally rising toward the west for about one mile and a half, where another steep incline occurs. The western part is intersected by tortuous and rugged ravines, averaging from 400 to 600 feet deep, at the bottom of which run rapid and never-failing streams of good water. The soil on the mountains is very thin, not averaging more than four inches in depth, being of a fine, rich, vegetable mould. The subsoil is shale and gravel. The plateaux have rolling surface and are thickly timbered with valuable poplar, ash and oak. The township is, on the whole, better suited for lumbering than agricultural purposes.

TP. 18, RGE. 15.—The soil and timber are similar to those in the last mentioned township.

TP. 15, RGE. 16.—The surface of this township is gently rolling with a general slope to the south, broken by numerous sloughs and meadows. The soil is a rich, sandy loam, on a clay subsoil. Sections 19, 31, and part of 33 are timbered with poplar, some of which is of fair size. The rest of the township is all more or less scattered over with scrub, light in some parts, in others dense. There are one or two small creeks, containing a little running water, and in the sloughs the water is from one to three feet deep, all of a good quality. The growth of grass on upland (where open) is good, and in meadows and around marshes hay may be cut. The greater part of scrub could be easily cleared, and the township would then be an excellent one for general farming. The M. & N. W. Railway crosses the south tier of sections, Bridge Creek station being on S.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  section 6. Bridge Creek P. O. is on section 10. Springhill school house is on S.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  section 34, and Iroquois school house on S.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 10, and Coldstream school house on S.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 18.

TP. 16, RGE. 16.—This township is situate entirely in the Riding Mountains. Although generally hilly, with numerous gullies and ravines, many of the sections are quite flat and would be suitable for settlement. In the eastern half the timber is of large size, much of it averaging twenty inches in diameter; poplar, oak and white birch with much willow brush. The entire township is well watered, the streams running all summer. Hun's Valley P.O. is on N.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  section 20.

TP. 17, RGE. 16.—On the slope of the Riding Mountains, well watered throughout; good building timber; in some parts the land is of the best quality of black loam.

TP. 18, RGE. 16.—Is on the eastern slope of the Riding Mountains. The eastern half is very rough and hilly, the remainder is rolling lands, with numerous swamps and marshes. The whole is well watered, and heavily wooded with poplar, spruce and tamarac. Soil is light clay loam.

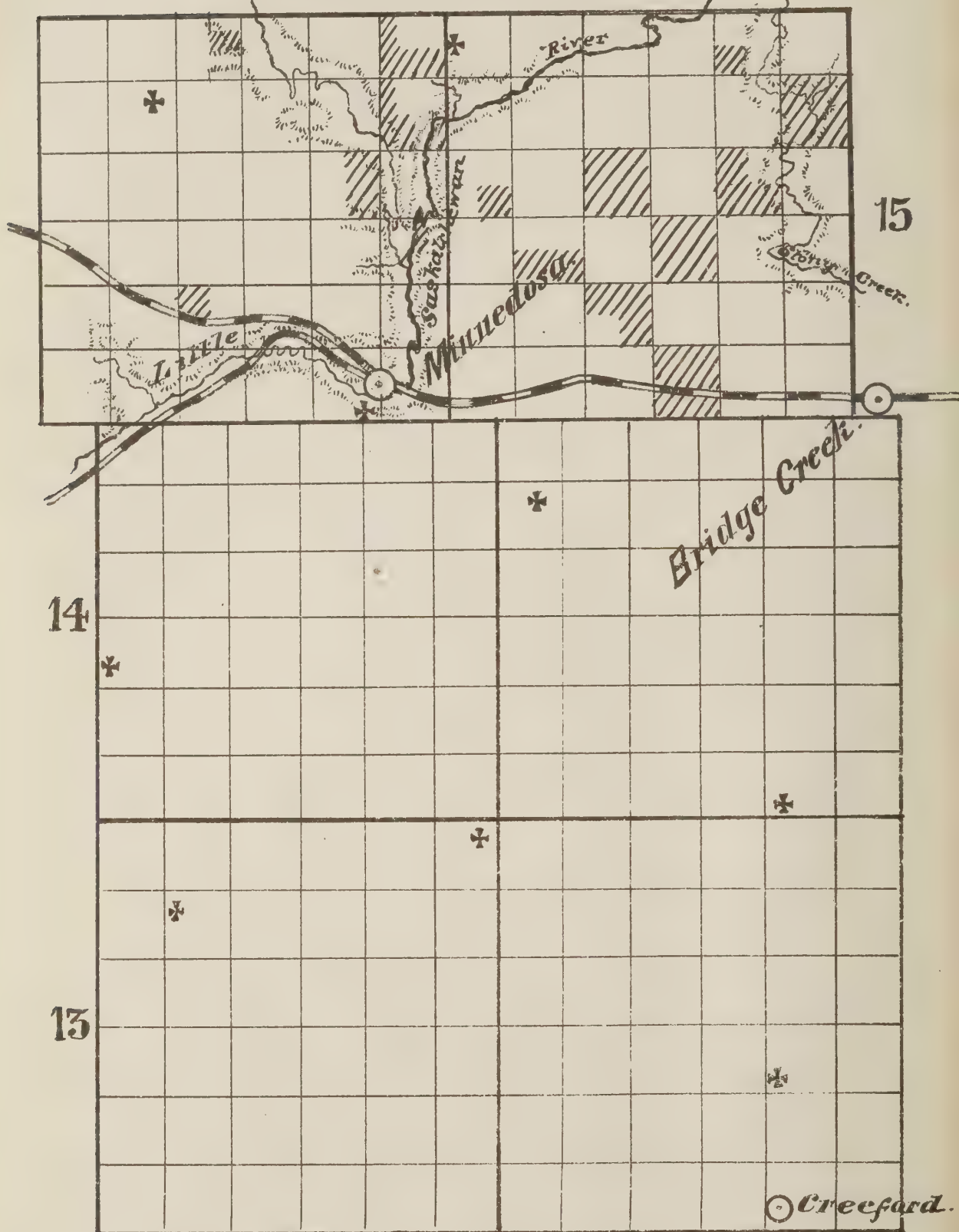
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# ○ DANA H.

MUNICIPALITY.



18 + School Houses.

○ Post Offices.



M & N-W-RY Lands for Sale .



## MUNICIPALITY OF ODANAH.

This Municipality is situated in the County of Minnedosa and consists of townships 13 to 15, ranges 17 and 18. The M. & N. W. Ry. runs through the northern portion of this district and Minnedosa station is situated on section 2, township 15, range 18. This town, which is the county town, has a population of about 800. It has two saw mills, one flour mill, with a capacity of 100 barrels per day (Hungarian roller process); Episcopal, Presbyterian and Methodist churches and public school, two elevators, with a capacity of 80,000 bushels; telegraph and post office. The *Minnedosa Tribune* is published every week. The town is well supplied with butchers, bakers and general stores, a cheese factory and a brewery. The Dominion Lands office for the Little Saskatchewan district is stationed here, and the Government have erected an immigrant house. The Saskatchewan & Western Railway starts from this point and runs to Rapid City. This Municipality contains two post offices and eight school houses and is well settled throughout. The northern portion is well wooded, and watered by the Little Saskatchewan River and Stony Creek. The district is well adapted for mixed farming.

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TP. 13, RGE. 17.—Surface is rolling prairie. An abundance of good water. The soil is chiefly a rich, dark loam, with clay and gravel subsoil. Creeford P.O. is on S.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 2, and Glenburney school house is on S.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 14.

TP. 14, RGE. 17.—The surface is undulating. The soil on the slopes is tolerably good. There are many small shallow lakes and ponds in the western part, the water of some of them being bitter, but many are to be found with good, fresh water. A portion is covered with scrub and grey willow. The timber is small. Lorndale school house is on S.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 2 and Hazlewood school house is on N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 30.

TP. 15, RGE. 17.—The surface of this township is gently rolling, with slope to west and south, and, except along the north and south-

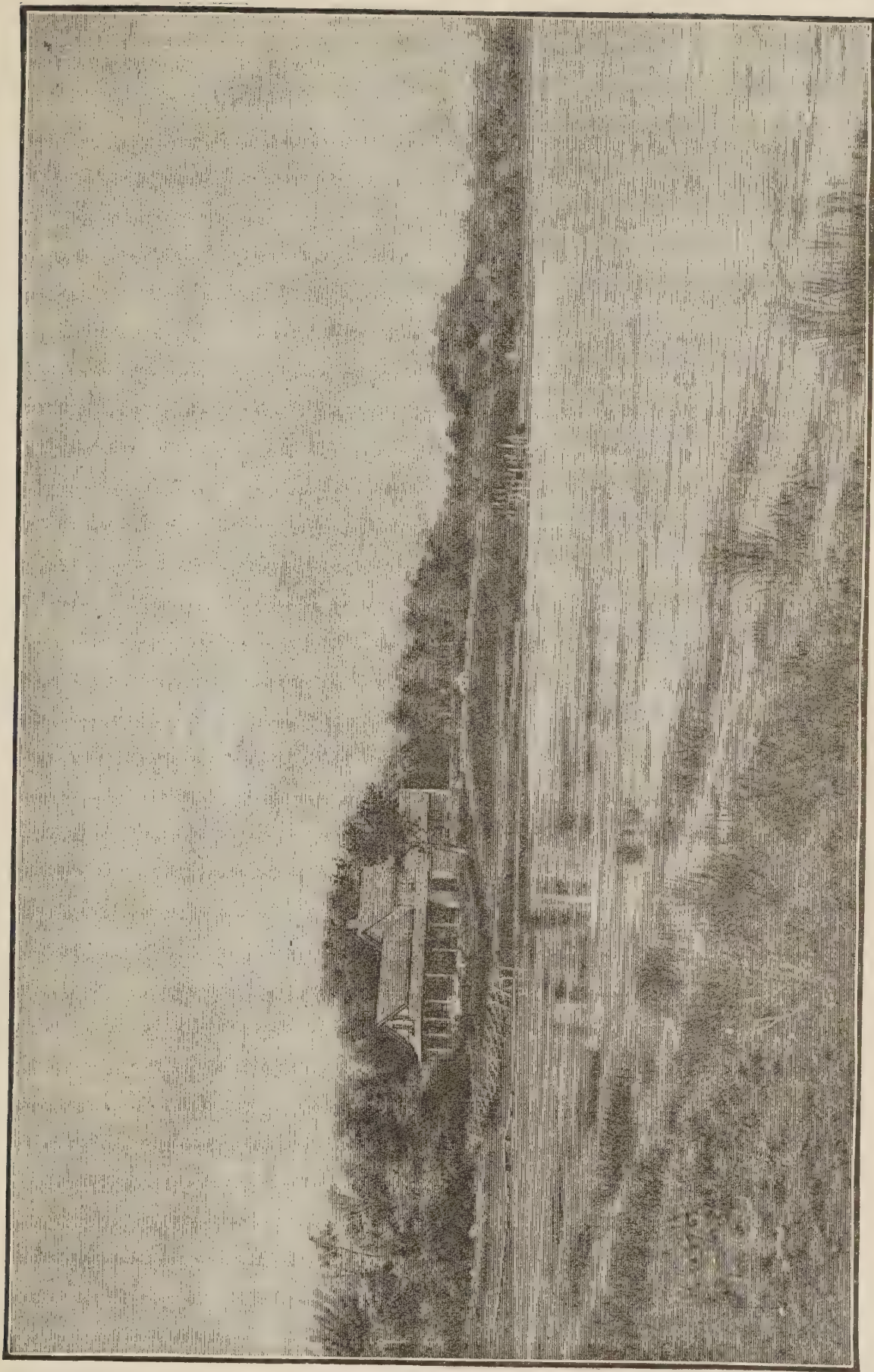
east, is covered with dense scrub and timber, with many open water ponds and meadows. The soil is good, except in a few places. It is mostly a black, sandy loam, about twelve inches deep, on gravelly clay subsoil. A great quantity of rails and firewood can be cut. The grass on the open land is uniformly good, and there is plenty of meadow hay. Stony Creek runs through some of the easterly sections. It is about ten feet wide and one foot deep. Another creek runs through the north-west corner of the township. The railway line traverses the southerly tier of sections. Clanwilliam school house is on N.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 31.

TP. 13, RGE. 18.—Is rolling prairie. Soil is a clay loam on a clay subsoil. Rookhurst school house is on N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 36.

TP. 14, RGE. 18.—The surface is generally rolling, and for the most part the soil is of excellent quality. There are no running streams but water is readily found by digging from eight to ten feet deep. A portion is prairie; some is covered with small and scrubby poplar and willows, but no timber of any kind large enough for building is to be found. Willow Grove school house is on S.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 18.

TP. 15, RGE. 18.—Is well wooded and watered, the Little Saskatchewan River winding from its northern to its southern limit in a lovely valley. There are several beautiful small lakes; the waters for the most part are good. Also abundance of good hay land. The railway line runs across the south half of this township and the station of MINNEDOSA is on section two. Cameron school house is on N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 29.





HOMESTEAD IN TP. 13, RGE. 18, ON LINE OF MANITOBA AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.

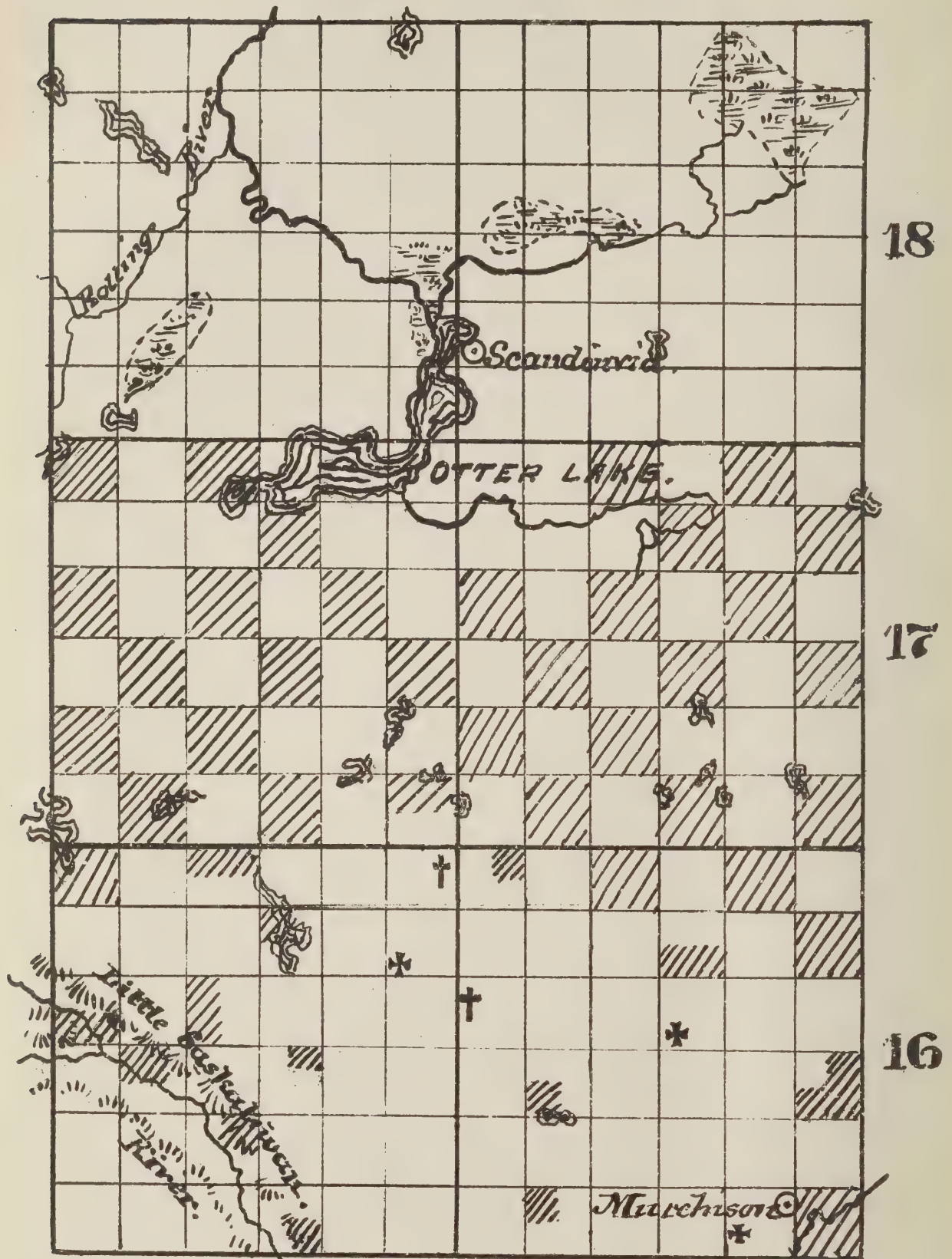






# CLAN WILLIAM.

## MUNICIPALITY.



+ Churches, 18 \* School Houses, 17 o Post Offices.

 M&N-W-R-Y Lands for Sale.



## MUNICIPALITY OF CLANWILLIAM.

This Municipality is situated in the County of Minnedosa and consists of townships 16 to 18 in ranges 17 and 18. The southern boundary of this Municipality is just five miles north of the M. & N. W. Railway. This district is well known for its cattle-raising, and several fine farms are situated along the township road running north from Minnedosa. Minnedosa is its market town. The district is well watered and well wooded, and the southern portion is well settled. The northern is being rapidly settled by Scandinavians. The road to the Lake Dauphin district passes through the centre of the Municipality. At Scandinavia there is a saw mill which is turning out good lumber. There are three post offices and three school houses in the Municipality, and a Presbyterian church and English church.

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TP. 16, RGE. 17.—Surface is gently rolling, with small ponds and sloughs, and the north and east of the township is covered with bluffs of poplar and scrub. Slopes strongly to south and has numerous shallow coulees or natural drains, which afford a ready means of drainage. The soil is all good, being a rich, sandy loam on clay sub-soil. There is a quantity of meadow land, scattered over the township. An abundant supply of fuel, fencing, and building material is to be found in the wooded portion and water is easily obtained. Several sections are very well suited for mixed farming. Murchison P.O. is on N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  and Bethany school house on S.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 2, Holland school house on section 22, and Presbyterian church on section 19, and Clanwilliam P.O. on S.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 18.

TP. 17, RGE. 17.—Is chiefly timbered with poplar, spruce, grey willow and tamarac, of little use except for firewood. The soil is usually good. The surface is rolling and somewhat rough. There are many muskegs and small lakes, with some fine living springs. The township is well timbered and well watered. It could be brought under a good state of cultivation.

TP. 18, RGE. 17.—This closely resembles the preceding township, with the exception that it is rather more thickly wooded. Scandinavia P.O. is on S.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 7.

TP. 16, RGE. 18.—Is mostly rolling, scrubby prairie, broken on the south-west quarter by the valley of the Little Saskatchewan River, which presents some good mill sites. The railway lands for sale have all good soil, it being a rich sandy loam, on clay and gravelly clay subsoil. Plenty of wood all over township, water in abundance in small lakes, and splendid meadow land in valley. All the sections have enough clear land for a start, and the brush could be easily cleared. Rosebush, peavine and vetches abound in this district, and game of all kinds is plentiful. There is an English church on N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 36, and Lakelet school house is on S.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 25.

TP. 17, RGE. 18.—Rolling land, well supplied with water, many of the sections containing a lake or a portion of one. There is a good deal of heavy timber, consisting largely of birch, poplar and willow, mixed. The soil is excellent and deep. Otter Lake lies in the N.E. corner.

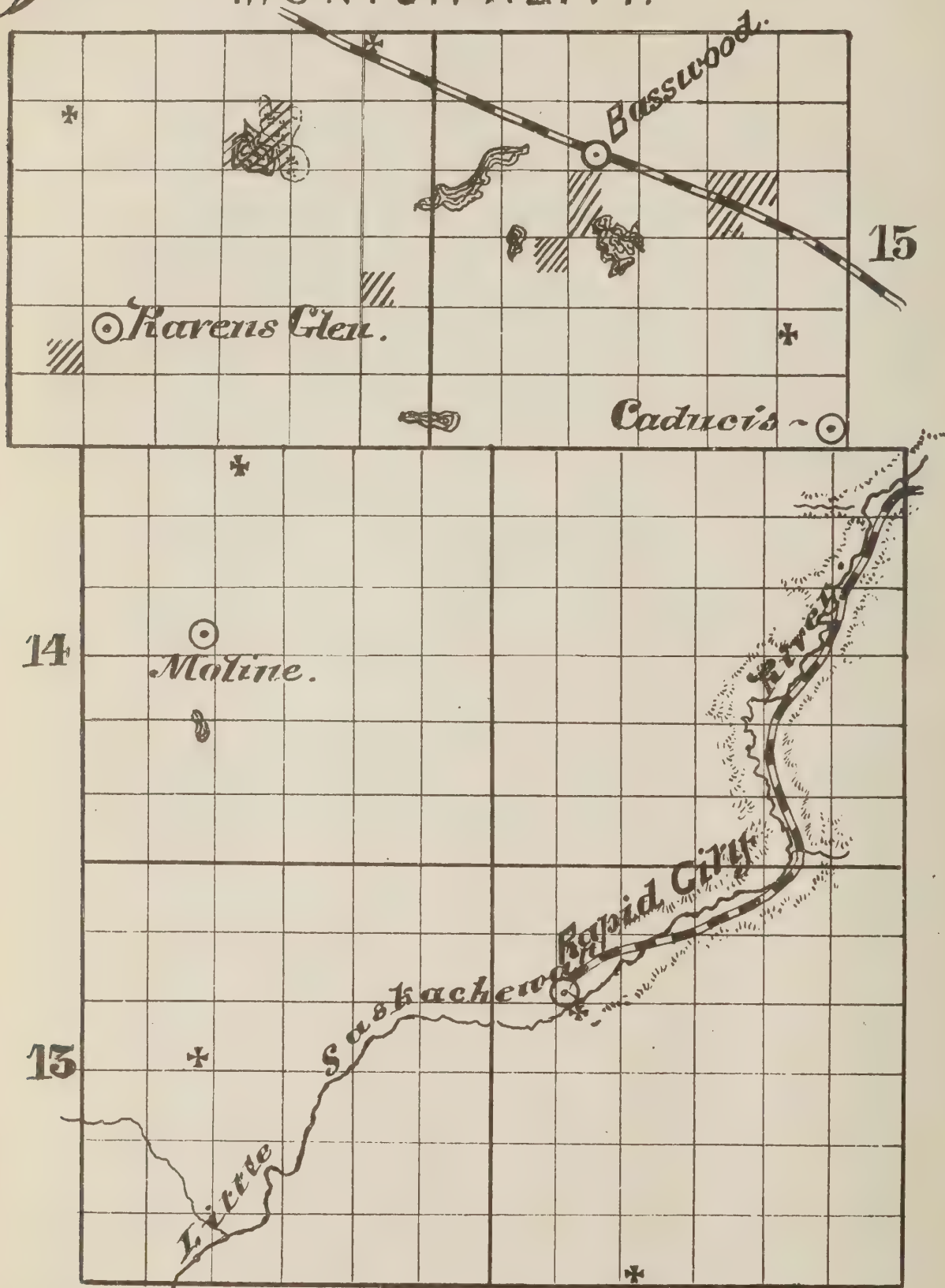
TP. 18, RGE. 18.—Gently rolling prairie. The soil is of fair quality, but light. Is chiefly wooded with poplar and spruce. Rolling River flows out of Otter Lake, in the south-east corner of the township. There are numerous lakes and ponds.





# SASKATCHEWAN

MUNICIPALITY.



Post Offices. 20 School Houses. 19.



M & N-W-RY Lands for Sale.

## MUNICIPALITY OF SASKATCHEWAN.

This Municipality is situated in the County of Minnedosa and consists of townships 13 to 15, ranges 19 and 20. The M. & N. W. Ry. runs through the northern part of the Municipality with BASSWOOD station on 28-15-19, and the S. & W. Ry. down the east side to Rapid City. Rapid City is a town of about 500 people, and has a good school, several stores and hotels, and is a good market for grain. There is a first-class grist mill, with elevator, and a woolen mill in the town. Two newspapers are published weekly. This Municipality contains five post offices and seven school houses and is a well settled district. It is well known for its sheep-raising and grain-growing qualities, and the land in this district will, it is expected, soon become valuable.

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TP. 13, RGE. 19.—The surface is undulating; the soil, good. The Little Saskatchewan runs in a south-westerly direction across the north-westerly portion of the township. Its current is very rapid. The town of Rapid City is on section 20, and there is a good school house at this point. Wallace school house is on S.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 4. The Saskatchewan & Western Railway runs across the north-west corner of the township. (See cut on page 2.)

TP. 14, RGE. 19.—The surface is undulating; the soil, good. A few small poplar bluffs. Swamps and small alkaline lakes are numerous. The Little Saskatchewan flows in a southerly direction through the eastern part. It has a rapid current and is well adapted for mill sites. Fish are plentiful in its waters. The valley of the river is about one mile in width, enclosed by hills nearly 100 feet high. The Saskatchewan & Western Railway runs down the valley.

TP. 15, RGE. 19.—A rich, black, sandy loam, ten to twenty inches deep, on clay subsoil. These lands will no doubt be much sought after. There are several small lakes, also two of considerable size. One in the centre of the township is alkaline, the other, Long Lake, is only slightly bitter. Cadurcis P.O. is on section one and Cadurcis

school house on N.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 12. The railway runs in a north-westerly direction across the township and BASSWOOD station and P. O. are on section 28.

TP. 13, RGE. 20.—The surface is undulating prairie and the soil is very good. The Little Saskatchewan River crosses the township diagonally and contains good water. Saskatchewan school house is on S.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 20.

TP. 14, RGE. 20.—The surface is undulating prairie and the soil good. There are a few small bluffs of poplar. Alkaline lakes are numerous. Good water may be had by sinking a few feet. There are some fresh water ponds and numerous small meadows. It is a fair township for farming. Moline P.O. is on S.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  section 20, and Weir school house on N.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 33.

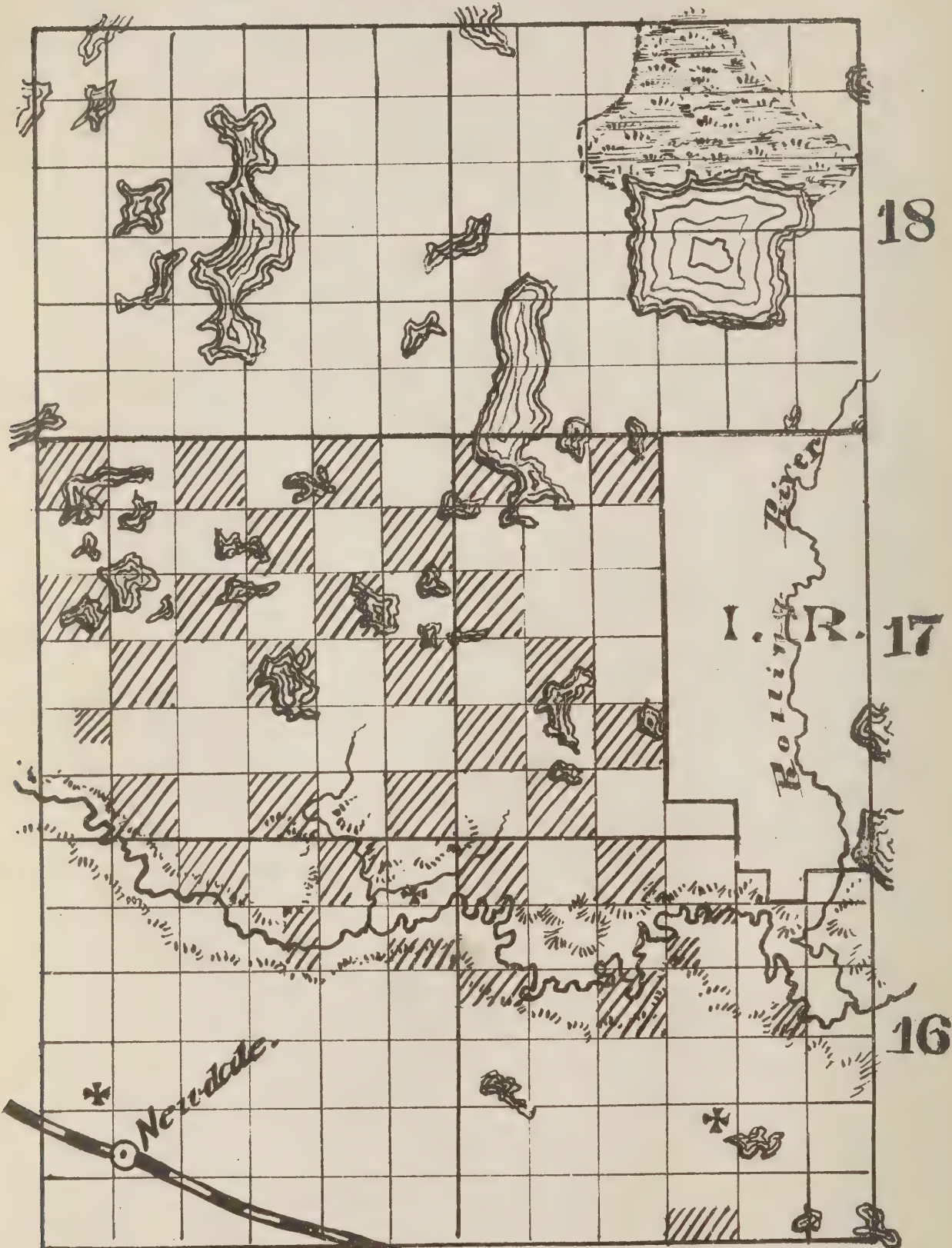
TP. 15, RGE. 20.—This township is undulating to rolling, a good deal broken on east half by large marshes and lakes, to which there is generally good fall; the general fall, where noticeable, is to the south-east. Over all parts both soil and grass are of the best, but water in a good many marshes is slightly alkaline, causing a poor growth of hay on otherwise good places for it. All things considered, this township is a good one for mixed farming, and the settlers now residing in it are of the most desirable class. Rosemount school house is on N.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 36, Newdale school house is on N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 30, and Raven Glen P.O. on section 8. The railway crosses the extreme north-east corner of the township.





# HARRISON.

## MUNICIPALITY.



⊙ Post Offices. 20. \* School Houses. 19.



M & N-W-RY Lands for Sale.

## MUNICIPALITY OF HARRISON.

This Municipality is situated in the County of Minnedosa and consists of townships 16 to 18, ranges 19 and 20. The M. & N. W. Ry. runs through the south-west corner of the Municipality and NEWDALE station is on section 8-16-20. The southern portion of the Municipality is well settled and contains one post office and three schools. The Little Saskatchewan River runs through Tp. 16. The northern portion of the Municipality is well wooded and contains some fine lakes and good water.

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TP. 16, RGE. 19.—The Little Saskatchewan River flows from west to east across the north half of the township, in a broad valley 200 feet deep. It is mostly along the banks of or in this valley that the railway lands lie; the surface of all is more or less broken, and the greater part is covered with small poplar and scrub. The soil on uplands and in valley is good, sandy loam on clay subsoil, but on the banks is mixed with a good deal of gravel. Some good meadow land in valley, and the upland grass is good. All the sections are suitable for farming and section 27 would do nicely for stock. Fairmount school house is on section 10.

TP. 17, RGE. 19.—The township is well timbered with the following kinds, viz.: Poplar, White Birch, Grey Willow and a few Spruce, useful for firewood, fencing and general purposes. Regarding soil the township in the main is of good quality, being clay subsoil and loam on top. With regard to lakes and muskegs there are quite a number of them, very few of the lakes having any connection with others by streams. In fact, the only stream worthy of mention is called "Whirlpool River," which enters north-east portion and runs through the east sections for the length of the township, in several places affording good mill sites. The water is fresh and of good quality. Taking the township as a whole, the soil is good, well watered, well timbered, and could be brought easily under a good state of cultivation. The east half of this township is an Indian Reserve; the west half is open for homestead entry.



TP. 18, RGE. 19.—Is well watered by two large lakes and several small ones, and is timbered with poplar, white birch, spruce and larch. The soil is good, being loam with yellow clay subsoil.

TP. 16, RGE. 20.—It is composed of first-class land, rolling prairie, with considerable hay land, not well watered or timbered except the northern tier of sections, through which the Little Saskatchewan River runs. The railway runs across the south-west corner of this township and NEWDALE station and P.O. are on section 8. Harrison school house is on section 18 and Rosemount school house on section 36.

TP. 17, RGE. 20.—The township is all timber land, principally poplar and of the largest size, especially in the north four tiers of sections. There are also numerous lakes throughout the township. The soil is second class. There are large patches of grass land in many places throughout the township.

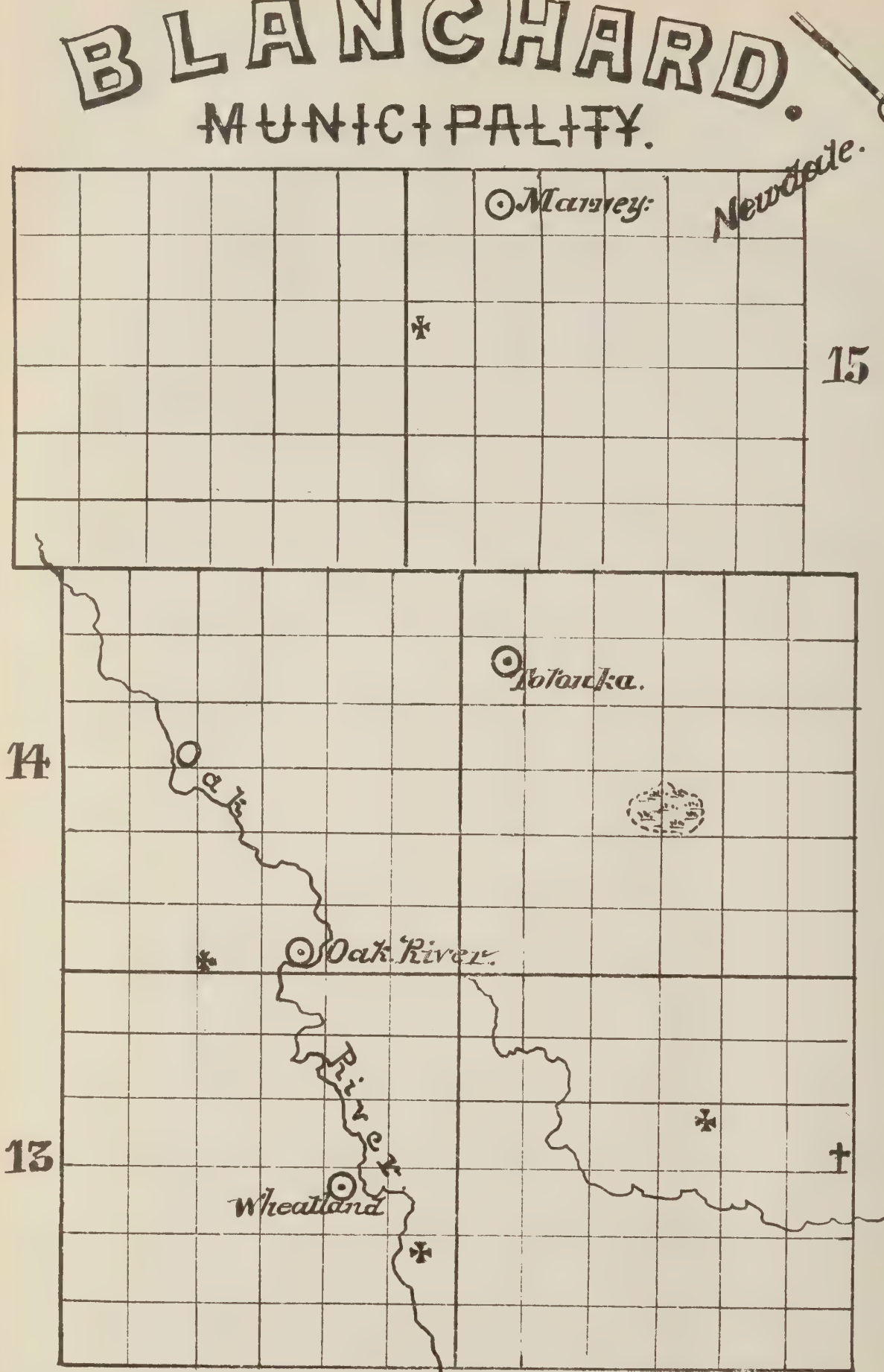
TP. 18, RGE. 20.—Consists of lakes and woods, the latter containing heavy timber. The soil is excellent.

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# BLANCHARD.

## MUNICIPALITY.



† Churches.

22 \* School Houses.

21 ○ Post Offices.



## MUNICIPALITY OF BLANCHARD.

This Municipality is situated in the County of Minnedosa and consists of townships 13 to 15, ranges 21 and 22. The M. & N. W. Ry. runs from two to six miles north of the Municipality. It contains four post offices and four school houses and is well settled. The character of the country is undulating prairie, fairly wooded and watered by Oak River and numerous ponds. Is an excellent district for mixed farming. Two railway lines are surveyed through the southern part of the Municipality and it is certain to get good railway facilities in 1888. Their present market towns are Rapid City on the east and Newdale and Strathclair on the north.

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TP. 13, RGE. 21.—The soil is first-class clay loam. There is a small quantity of poplar in the township. Well watered by ponds and marsh springs. A creek runs across the township. Medina school is on N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 22. Presbyterian church on S.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 24. Very good township for mixed farming.

TP. 14, RGE. 21.—The soil is first-class. A small quantity of poplar. Is well watered by ponds and marsh springs. Totonka P.O. is on N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 30.

TP. 15, RGE. 21.—The surface is undulating prairie; the soil rather gravelly. Swamps are numerous but small. There is a pond of good water in section 34. Rosedale school house is on section 19. Marney P.O. is on section 32.

TP. 13, RGE. 22.—Good soil; clay loam. Fairly good water, easily got by digging. Good hay meadows. Oak River runs through the east half of the township. Wheatland P.O. is on N.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 14 and Wheatland school house on N.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 12.

TP. 14, RGE. 22.—Is fairly wooded and watered. The timber is poplar, large enough for building purposes. The greater part of the surface is rolling prairie, the timber being scattered over it in small clumps. The soil is excellent. Oak River runs diagonally across the

township. Oak River P.O. is on S.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 3 and Oak River school house on S.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 4.

TP. 15, RGE. 22.—Is principally prairie, with good soil though gravelly in places. In some places there are small islands of poplar. There are numerous and good hay swamps. Oak River flows through the south-westerly part of the township, in a stony valley.

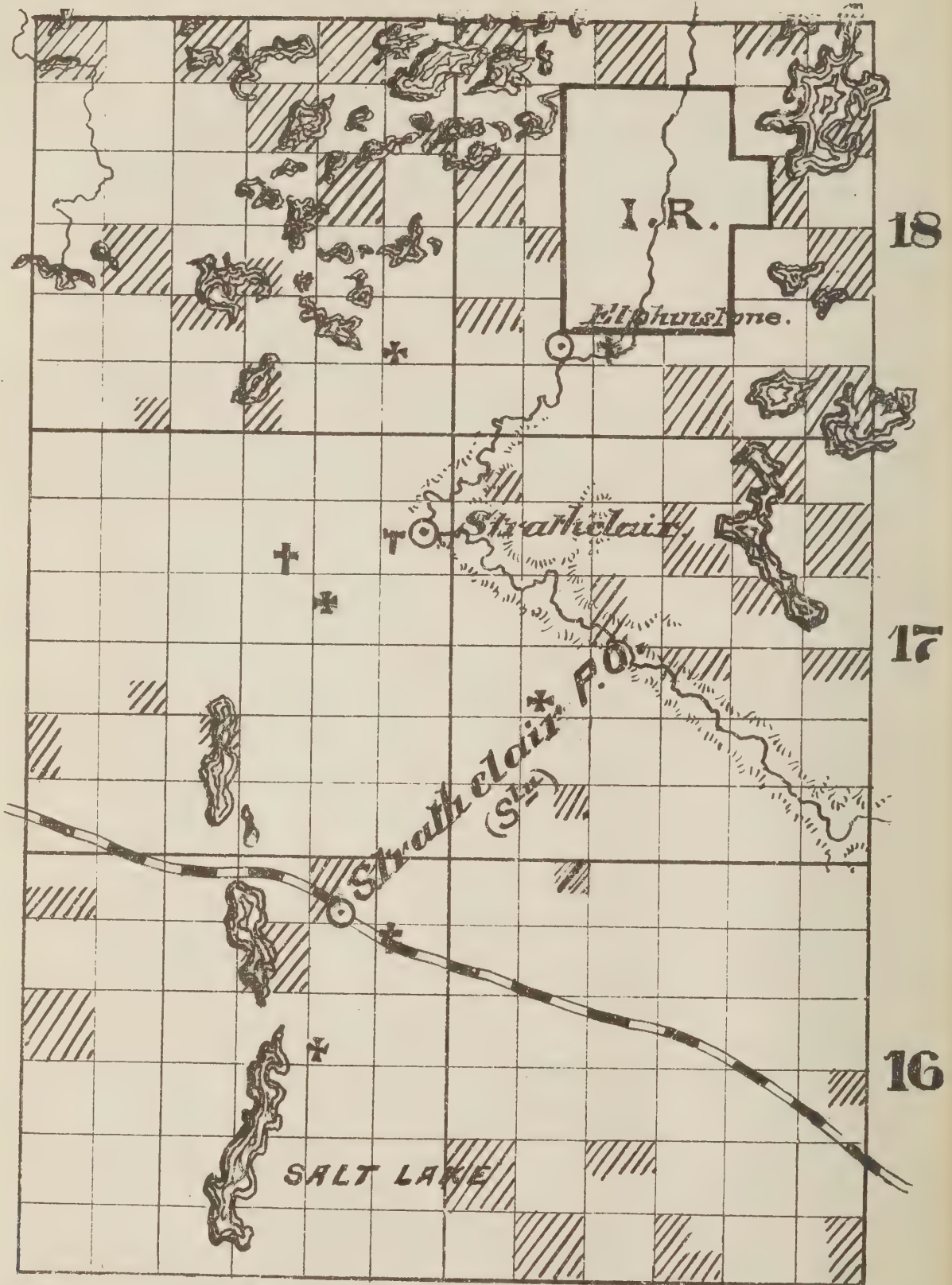
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# STRATHCLAIR.

## MUNICIPALITY.



† Churches. 22\* School Houses. 21⊙ Post Offices.



M & N - W - R - Y Lands for Sale.

## MUNICIPALITY OF STRATHCLAIR.

This Municipality is situated in the County of Minnedosa and consists of townships 16 to 18, ranges 21 and 22. The M. & N. W. Ry. runs through the south half of this Municipality and STRATHCLAIR station is situated on section 35-16-22. At this point there are good stores, a good hotel, blacksmith and saddler's shop, and a grain warehouse. There is also a Hudson's Bay post on section 8-18-21, and a saw and grist mill at Strathclair, on section 25-17-22. The Little Saskatchewan River runs through townships 17 and 18, range 21, and there is splendid hay in the river valley. The Municipality is a very good mixed farming country and well adapted for both cattle and sheep raising. On section 34-18-21 Mr. Campbell has a fine herd of Highland cattle, which remain out all winter without shelter. His sheep are also flourishing. The character of the country is rolling prairie and well wooded, especially in the north. The Riding Mountains, taking their rise from the river, are heavily timbered, and the district is well watered by the river and several lakes. There are three post offices and four school houses in the Municipality, as well as two Presbyterian churches and a Baptist chapel.

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TP. 16, RGE. 21.—Surface of this township is rolling, open prairie, or a succession of low hills with sloughs and ponds lying in some of the hollows. Water is of good quality and soil first-class, being a rich loam from ten to twenty inches deep on a clay and gravelly clay subsoil, but owing to rough surface and numerous sloughs the land is better adapted for mixed farming and grazing than for exclusive grain raising. Grass is very heavy and large quantities of hay can be cut around the marshes. The railway runs across the township.

TP. 17, RGE. 21.—About one-third is prairie and one-sixth is partial prairie and what is usually called scrub, being covered with brush of willows both small and great, with hazel and young poplar, some burned and some green, interspersed with small patches of prairie. One-half of the township is covered with large poplar, mostly burnt



and dry. The soil is first-class throughout the whole township, except on the sides of the steep banks bounding the river valley. These hills are dry and gravelly, averaging from 150 to 200 feet in height. There is a considerable area of meadow land along the river in this township. There is one lake of considerable size (Wolf Lake), which is the only one surveyed. It contains fish. There are two very fine springs at the south-east end of it. Elgin school house is on S.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 17.

TP. 18, RGE. 21.—About one-fourth of its area is partial prairie, which is along both banks of the River Saskatchewan. The other three-fourths may be considered in a woody condition. The timber around the lakes in the N.E. and N.W. corners is of a large growth, poplar and some white birch, about half burned; remainder green, healthy and flourishing. There are several lakes in this township, some fifteen or sixteen of which are surveyed. The water of most of them is fresh and good, and one especially, a large one called Fishing Lake, in the N.E. corner has a fine sandy beach. The water is deep and of the best quality for use, and abounds with fish. The soil is first-class except the level land along the river, which is gravelly and light. The river is rapid in many places in its course through this township. An Indian reserve is situated in the centre of this township. Elphinstone P.O. is on section 8.

TP. 16, RGE. 22.—The lands are rolling prairie. Soil is a black, sandy loam, six to twenty-four inches deep, on clay subsoil. A salt lake about three miles long runs north and south through centre of township, and along the east side of this there are numerous poplar groves. All the lands are suitable for mixed farming. Salt Lake school house is on S.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 23. The railway crosses the north-east corner of the township, and STRATHCLAIR station and P.O. are on section 35, and there is a Presbyterian church at this point.

TP. 17, RGE. 22.—Rolling prairie, dotted over with sloughs and clumps of scrub. Sloughs are shallow with good water and meadow around edges. The soil is all good, being a sandy loam six to twenty-four inches deep, on clay subsoil. Excellent grass on uplands. Salt Lake takes up a part of sections four and nine. Village of STRATH-



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CLAIR is on section 25; has grist and saw mill and post office. Strathclair school house is on N.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 23. Baptist church on S.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 27. Township is well settled, and altogether is a desirable locality.

TP. 18, RGE. 22.—The south-western portion of the township is a fine prairie with rolling and undulating surface, having only two or three lakes. The northern part is covered with what may be called a heavy brush. This township abounds in small swamps or meadows, which will be very useful to the settlers. The small openings in the scrub land give excellent pasturage. The soil may be designated as first-class throughout. Elphinstone school house is on S.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 12.

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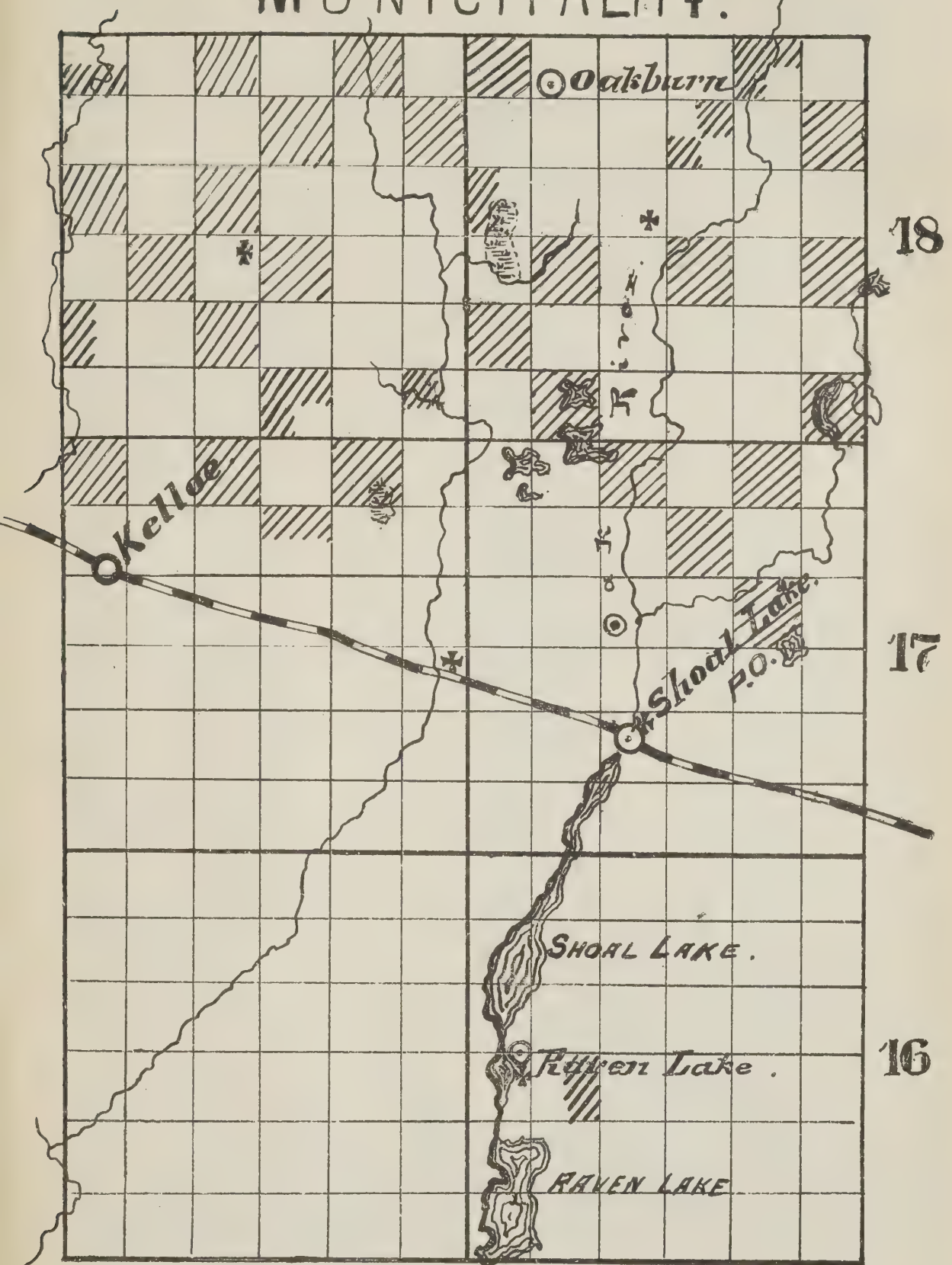
### MUNICIPALITY OF SHOAL LAKE.

This Municipality is situated in the County of Shoal Lake and consists of townships 16 to 18, ranges 23 and 24. The M. & N. W. Ry. runs through the centre of the district and SHOAL LAKE and KELLOE stations are situated within the boundaries.

Shoal Lake town began its existence, at the north end of the lake, when the railway reached that point. The town draws the trade from a most excellent and extensive country of undoubted beauty and fertility and is settled by a fine class of men, although there is still much land to be occupied. The place was formerly a mounted police station of considerable importance, and the numerous and commodious buildings once occupied by the force are still standing at the south end of the lake, some miles distant from the town. Shoal Lake has three general stores, one of which is the Hudson's Bay store, a tin and hardware establishment, a drug store, two blacksmith shops, a pump factory, five hotels, a law office, two places of worship and a public school, an excellent and most successful cheese factory, a wagon shop, three machine agencies, two grain buyers, and a very fine roller process flour mill of a capacity of one hundred and twenty-five barrels. The mill is at present so busy that it works eighteen hours a day. In connection with the mill there is an elevator of 20,000 bushel capacity. The pleasing situation and the fine lake from which the place takes its name makes the town the favorite resort of pleasure-seekers and sportsmen, who during the summer and autumn months are attracted by the excellent fishing and shooting which the lake affords. The numerous and beautiful groves of trees along the shores and in the vicinity of the lake add to the beauty and interest of the surroundings. Shoal Lake is without doubt one of the most prosperous towns on the line of the Manitoba & North-Western Railway.

This is a favorite district and it is well watered and contains splendid land.

# SHOAL LAKE. MUNICIPALITY.



School Houses. 24

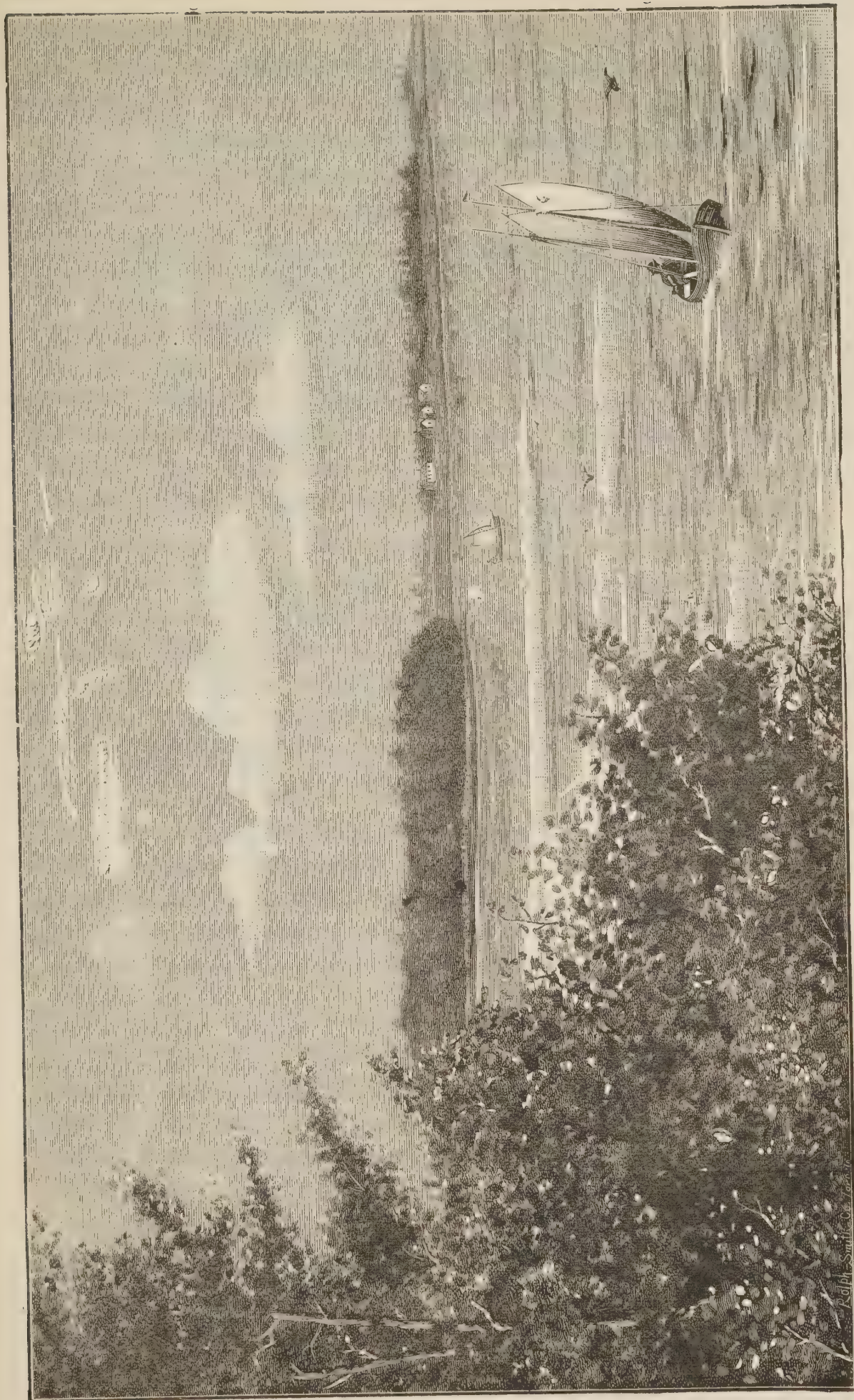
23. O Post Offices.



M&N-W-RY Lands for Sale.







SHOAL LAKE, ON LINE OF MANITOBA AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.

Ralph Smith & Co. Toronto





The Municipality contains three post offices and five school houses and is well settled throughout.

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TP. 16, RGE. 23.—The soil is a black, sandy loam. The surface is undulating, principally prairie, with numerous small clumps of brush and islands of poplar. Shoal and Raven Lakes (which abound with fish) lie on the westerly part. The water in both of these lakes is good. Raven Lake occupies parts of sections five, six, seven and eight. Along the east shore there is a firm gravelly or sandy beach. Along the south shore there is some good poplar timber. The south end of Shoal Lake has a fine gravelly beach. Shoal Lake school house and Raven Lake P.O. are on N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 18.

TP. 17, RGE. 23.—The surface is rolling, with clear, open water ponds and sloughs and excellent soil. Bluffs of poplar all over township will furnish a liberal supply of fuel. Two small streams, Wolf and Oak Creek, ensure an abundance of water. The railway runs across the south half of this township. Shoal Lake, a lovely sheet of water, beautifully situated, extends into this township in sections four, five and nine, and on section nine is the station and village of SHOAL LAKE. There is a school and P.O. at this point.

TP. 18, RGE. 23.—Surface is rolling or broken by low hills and ridges, with ponds and marshes in a great many of the hollows. The water is slightly alkaline in the ponds but good in Wolf Creek, which runs south through east of township, and in Oak Creek, running through centre of township. Soil rates No. 1, being a rich, sandy loam from six to twenty inches deep, on a clay subsoil. Bluffs of poplar dot the surface of the township, affording enough timber, firewood and fencing. Grass and hay are abundant for stock-raising, and shelter afforded by bluffs of timber and abundance of grass and water make this a desirable township for that purpose. The railway lands for sale are choice. Oakburn P.O. is on S.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 32 and Oakburn school house is on S.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 21.

TP. 16, RGE. 24.—The soil is principally a rich, dark clay loam. There are several lakes of good water and numerous islands of timber and underwood.

TP. 17, RGE. 24.—Surface is undulating or very gently rolling, with general slope and drainage to south. The soil is a rich, sandy loam from ten to twenty inches deep, on a clay subsoil, rating No. 1. Bluffs of poplar on most of the sections will supply the settler with enough fencing and firewood, while the low land and margin of marshes will cut all the hay required for stock, and enough arable land remains for cultivation (on most of the sections more than one-half), and this area can be increased by clearing of scrub and by drainage. The railway runs across the township, and KELLOE station is on section 30. Edge Hill school house is on N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 13. Some good railway land for sale in this township.

TP. 18, RGE. 24.—Rolling, dotted over with clumps of scrub and poplar. Soil first class, being black, sandy loam six to thirty inches deep, on clay subsoil. The poplar bluffs will furnish a good supply of fencing and fuel, and an abundance of hay can be cut on every section. Culross school house is on N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 16.

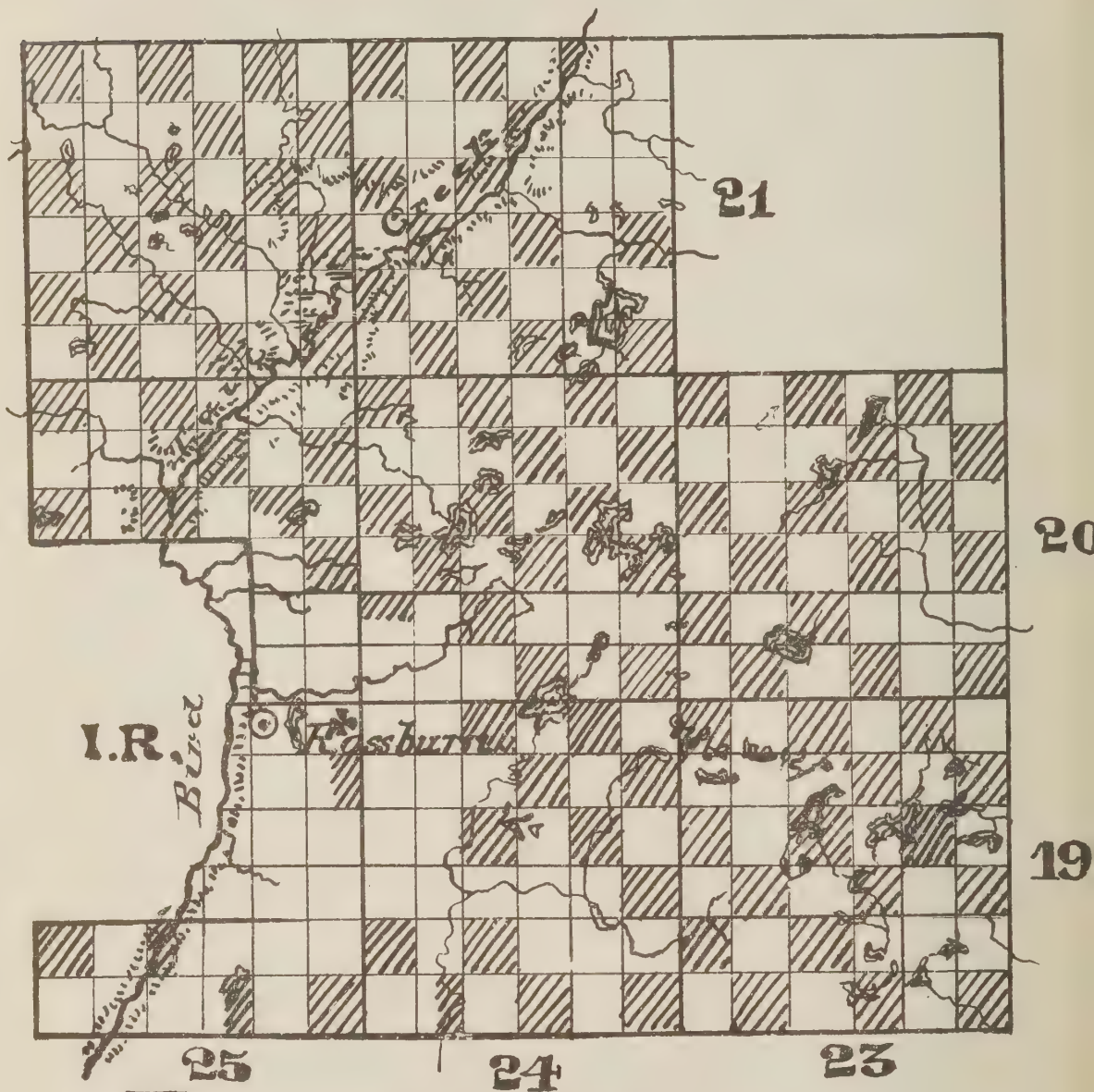
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# ROSSBURN.

## MUNICIPALITY.



M & N-W-RY. Lands for Sale.

○ Post Office.

\* School Houses.

## MUNICIPALITY OF ROSSBURN.

This Municipality is situated in the County of Russell and consists of townships 19 to 21, ranges 23 to 25. The M. & N. W. Ry. runs about eight miles from the southern boundary. The Municipality is well watered by the Bird Tail Creek, and the northern portion of it contains heavy timber. Some of the finest land for mixed farming can be obtained where the wood has been cleared off by fire and grass is now growing. On the Bird Tail Creek is Sharman's cattle farm of thoroughbred Herefords and in Tp. 21, Rge. 25 is Grant's large sheep farm and Huston's stock ranch, comprising horses, cattle and sheep. The soil throughout is excellent. There is one post office and one school house in the district. Church service is regularly held in the school house.

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TP. 19, RGE. 23.—This township lies on the southern side of the Riding Mountains, and is drained by streams tributary to the Oak River. The southern boundary of the township skirts the open prairie. The township lies within what has been a densely wooded tract, now almost completely destroyed by fire. Only a small tract in the north-east corner, chiefly in sections thirty-five and thirty-six, and in the south-west part of the township, in sections four, five, six and seven, being green poplar woods. This great brule is now covered with dry, standing poplar and windfalls, in most parts grown up with young poplars, willows, hazel and other brush. No timber remains of any value except for firewood. The soil throughout is deep and rich, dark clay, entirely free from boulders. This township contains a great number of lakes, ponds and marshes. Many of the smaller ones are easily drained by removing obstructions from the water course, and all the lakes and streams are good, fresh water. The whole surface is very level or slightly undulating with easy slopes.

TP. 20, RGE. 23.—This township is situated on the highest part of the Riding Mountain, and is drained by the headwaters of streams tributary to the Little Saskatchewan. The surface of the township

is level or slightly undulating with easy slopes, and covered by a growth of black and white poplar and white birch. Beaver meadows and marshes are common, and small ponds and lakes. The poplar timber is very large, often thirty inches in diameter, tall and straight. On sections twenty-five, twenty-six, thirty-five and thirty-six and on part of sections thirty-four, twenty-seven, twenty-three, twenty-four and fourteen there is a large mixture of spruce among the poplar, suitable for saw logs. The soil throughout is deep and rich. In the future when open prairie is not obtainable, these lands will no doubt be cleared and cultivated, and will be found equally as productive as the best prairie lands.

TP. 19, RGE. 24.—Surface of township consists of undulations, short and abrupt in many places, and high, rolling tracts, much higher and more rolling, with general fall and fair natural drainage to the south; over all parts, especially at a distance from creeks, the deep hollows contain ponds and marshes, strongly alkaline at the south. The soil is generally a dark, rich, sandy loam from six to twenty-four inches deep, on clay subsoil, with, in some spots, sand and gravel. Across the north-east corner the land is now pretty well cleared. In all respects the township is well adapted for general farming, for in addition to good soil and fair surface there is good grass and a fair amount of hay, also a considerable amount of fair water.

TP. 20, RGE. 24.—This township, which lies on the south-eastern slope of the Riding Mountain, is almost entirely within a wooded district. The surface of the land is but slightly undulating, and beautifully diversified with lakes and ponds of excellent water which finds its way gradually to Bird's Tail Creek. The soil throughout is of excellent quality, entirely free from boulders. The township is wooded with green poplar and white birch. The poplar varies in size up to fourteen inches in diameter, tall and straight. The white birch is generally small, seldom attaining a greater diameter than ten inches.

TP. 21, RGE. 24.—This township is situated in the Riding Mountain and is watered by Bird Tail Creek, which enters it on section



thirty-five and taking a south-westerly course crosses sections thirty-five, twenty-seven, twenty-one, seventeen and eighteen, and leaves the township near the north-west corner of section seven. The creek runs in a valley varying in width from half a mile to one mile, two hundred feet below the general level of the country. It has a general breadth of fifty feet, a very strong current, and is floatable for logs and timber on high water. A dense willow swamp extends along each side of the creek, sometimes covering the entire valley but usually leaving a strip of open prairie between the edge of the swamp and the hills which rise on either side of the valley to the general level of the country. That part of the township lying to the north-west side of the creek is very hilly and cut up by meadows and small ponds. Timber is generally poplar of small size. On sections thirty-one, thirty-two, thirty-three and thirty-four there is a small quantity of merchantable spruce. To the south-east of Bird Tail Creek the surface of the country is more level and is generally timbered with black and white poplar of large size. The belt of prairie along the valley of the creek is fertile and well adapted for cultivation. The soil of the woodlands is also rich and deep, but is so uneven as not to present an inviting appearance.

TP. 19, RGE. 25.—The soil is rich and there is an abundant supply of wood, hay and water. The township is drained by Bird Tail Creek and its tributaries. Sections thirteen, twenty-three, twenty-four and twenty-five and part of sections fourteen and thirty-six are well wooded with poplar. The soil on all these sections is first quality. The north-west corner of the township is taken up by part of an Indian reserve. Rossburn P.O. is on N.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 35 and school house on N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 36.

TP. 20, RGE. 25.—The soil throughout is of first quality, consisting of dry ridges with gentle slopes and valleys, producing a heavy growth of grass. Marshes occur here and there, with small ponds of water, all of which is easily drained to Bird Tail Creek, which flows in a beautiful valley about one hundred and fifty feet below the general level of the country. The eastern slope to Bird Tail Creek is well wooded with poplar, and the whole interspersed with bluffs and

clumps of willow. The south-west portion of the township is an Indian reserve.

TP. 21, RGE. 25.—This township lies in the Riding Mountain and is drained by Bird Tail Creek, which enters the township on the north-east quarter of section twelve and leaves the township near the south-east angle of section two. Three large tributaries of Bird Tail Creek cross this township in a south-easterly direction and join the main stream. These tributaries, with minor smaller ones, completely drain the township, and in general they all flow with a strong current throughout their course. There are no large lakes in this township, but small ponds and marshes are common. Part of sections one, two, twelve, thirteen and fourteen is covered by marsh and willow swamp. The surface of the township is hilly, with easy slopes and a gradual increase of elevation towards the north-west. The soil throughout the township is universally excellent without any boulders and sometimes a heavy growth of poplar woods with hazel and willow undergrowth. The supply of poplar for building, fencing and firewood in this township is very great.

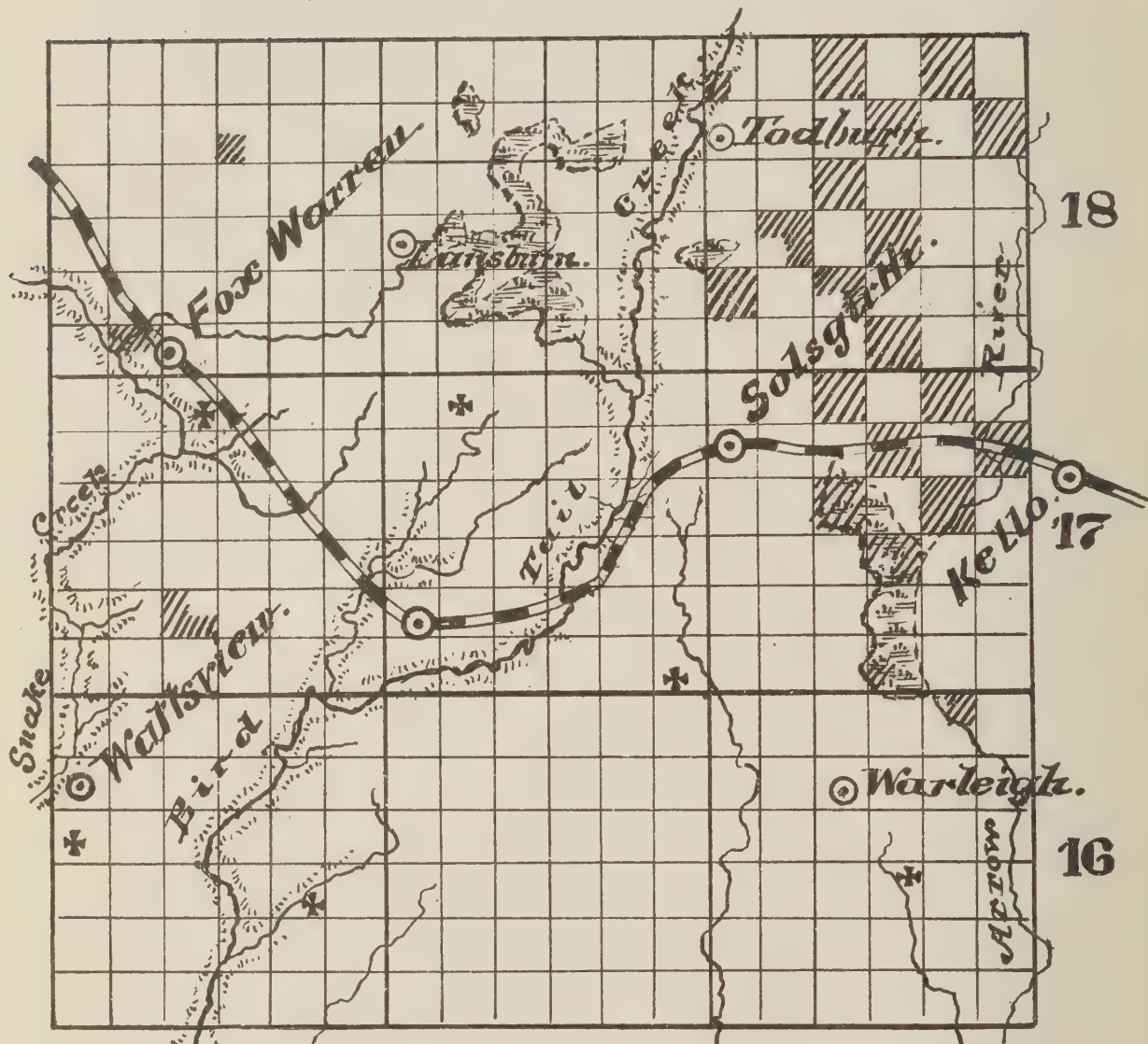
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# BIRTLE.

MUNICIPALITY.



27 \* School Ho. 26 ○ Post Offices 25 .

▨ M & N - W - R Lands for Sale.

## MUNICIPALITY OF BIRTLE.

This Municipality is situated in the County of Shoal Lake and consists of townships 16 to 18, ranges 25 to 27. The M. & N. W. Ry. runs through the centre of the Municipality, and the district has long been well and favorably known. The stations of SOLSGIRTH, BIRTLE and FOXWARREN are within its boundaries. The town of Birtle is on section six. It is the county town for Shoal Lake and Russell. Population about 400. Has general stores, telegraph and post office, hotels, livery stables, saw mill and grist mill, Episcopal, Presbyterian and Methodist churches and public school. The *Birtle Observer* is published here weekly. The Dominion Lands office for the Birtle district is stationed here and the Government has built an immigration house. This Municipality contains six post offices and nine school houses and is well settled. Church services are held in all school houses. The Bird Tail Creek runs from north to south through the Municipality and the district generally is well wooded and well watered.

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TP. 16, RGE. 25.—The soil is a dark, sandy loam, the surface undulating, principally prairie, but having patches of bush and small swamps. Rothesay school house is on N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 15 and Warleigh P.O. is on section 28.

TP. 17, RGE. 25.—Surface of township is undulating prairie, with scattered clumps of small poplar and scrub and large and small sloughs over it. The soil is an excellent black, sandy loam six to twenty-four inches deep, on clay and clay and gravel subsoil. Arrow River flows south through sections 23 and 25 and empties into a large marsh. Every section is provided with an abundance of good meadow hay around sloughs, and plenty of good, dry upland is left for all ordinary purposes. The upland grass is heavy and well suited for pasturage. Very few stones. The railway runs across the north half of the township and SOLSGIRTH station is on section 30, and a flourishing village is springing up, with P.O., stores, school, etc.

TP. 18, RGE. 25.—Lies on the east bank of Bird Tail Creek, is nice undulating prairie, sloping south and west. Bird Tail Creek, on the north-west corner is twenty to thirty feet wide and has banks one hundred and fifty feet high. Arrow Creek, on east, is a small stream ten feet wide with no banks. Soil is a rich, black loam twelve to thirty inches deep, on subsoil of light clay with gravel ridges; rates No. 1. Bluffs of scrub and small poplar scattered over the surface give it a very pretty appearance but are not of much use, most of it being too small for fuel. Marshes and meadows scattered over the surface ensure a liberal supply of meadow hay and pasture. Toddburn P.O. is on S.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 30. All the lands are suitable for mixed farming and many pieces are very fine.

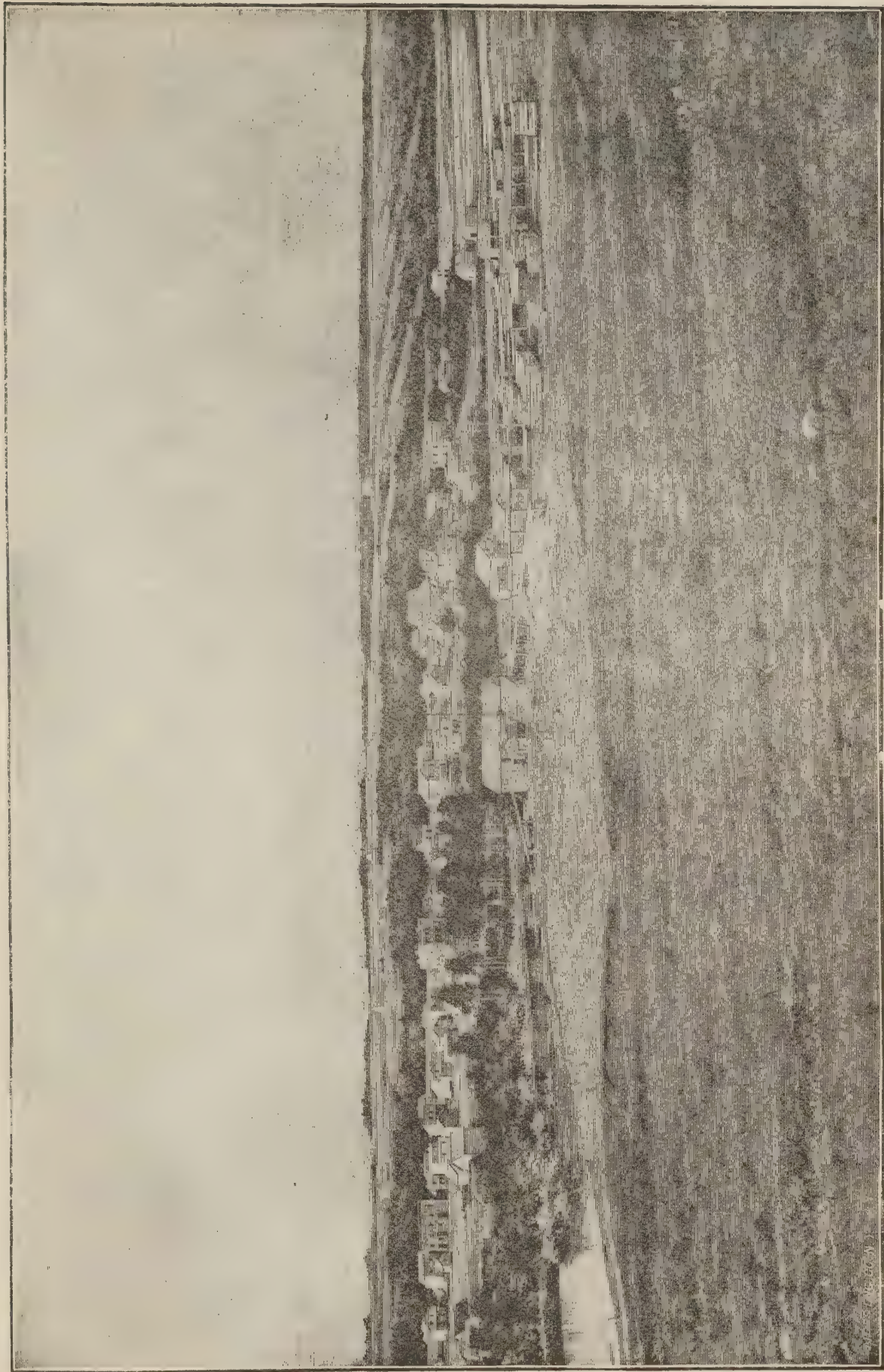
TP. 16, RGE. 26.—The soil is sandy loam of good quality. There are islands of inferior poplar. The township is undulating prairie.

TP. 17, RGE, 26.—This township is broken by Bird Tail Creek running through in a south-westerly direction. The valley on the creek is some 250 feet deep and three-quarters of a mile in width. The valley on the west side is generally open and stony, but on the east slope there is some good poplar timber. The general features of the township are an undulating prairie, with poplar bluffs, clumps of willow, small ponds and hay marshes. The land is of good quality. Burdette school house is on S.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 1 and Mountjay school house on S.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 32. The M. & N.W. Ry. runs across this township and the town of Birtle is on section 6.

TP. 18, RGE. 26.—The eastern tier of sections is much broken by Bird Tail Creek, which flows through a deep valley from 100 to 200 feet in depth, in a southerly direction. There is no timber of any value in this township, that on the east side of Bird Tail Creek being of inferior quality. However, timber may be easily obtained in the forests to the north and floated down the creek during high water. The soil is generally of good quality. Dowsford school house is on N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 25. Dowsford grist mill is on section 25. Lansburn P.O. is on S.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 18.

TP. 16, RGE. 27.—Rolling prairie traversed by the Bird Tail Creek. Well watered and wooded. There is a good deal of poplar scattered





VIEW OF BIRTLE, ON LINE OF MANITOBA AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.



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about. The soil is fair, but stony in places. Wattsvew P.O. is on S.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 30, Blenheim school house on S.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 14 and Oxford school house on S.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 19.

TP. 17, RGE. 27.—Rolling prairie traversed by several small creeks and dotted with small patches of scrub and willow and occasional clumps of poplar sufficiently large for fencing. The soil is a friable black loam from one to three feet deep, with clay subsoil. Dunstan school house is on S.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 33. Snake Creek runs along the west side of township. The M. & N. W. Ry. crosses this township.

TP. 18, RGE. 27.—Rolling prairie, rather broken by sloughs and dotted over with clumps of poplar and willow. Two or three creeks traverse the township. The soil is a rich, black, friable loam. Snake Creek and its tributaries afford ample water for all wants. The M. & N. W. Ry. crosses the south-west corner of this township and Fox Warren station is on section 4.

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### MUNICIPALITY OF SILVER CREEK.

This Municipality is situated in the County of Russell and consists of townships 19 to 21, ranges 26 and 27. The M. & N. W. Ry. runs within two miles of the south-west corner. The Municipality contains four post offices and four school houses, and is well settled and a favorably known farming district. It is well wooded and well watered and contains some very pretty scenery. The wheat from this district is of a good class and the farmers, who are mostly from Ontario, are good and practical men.

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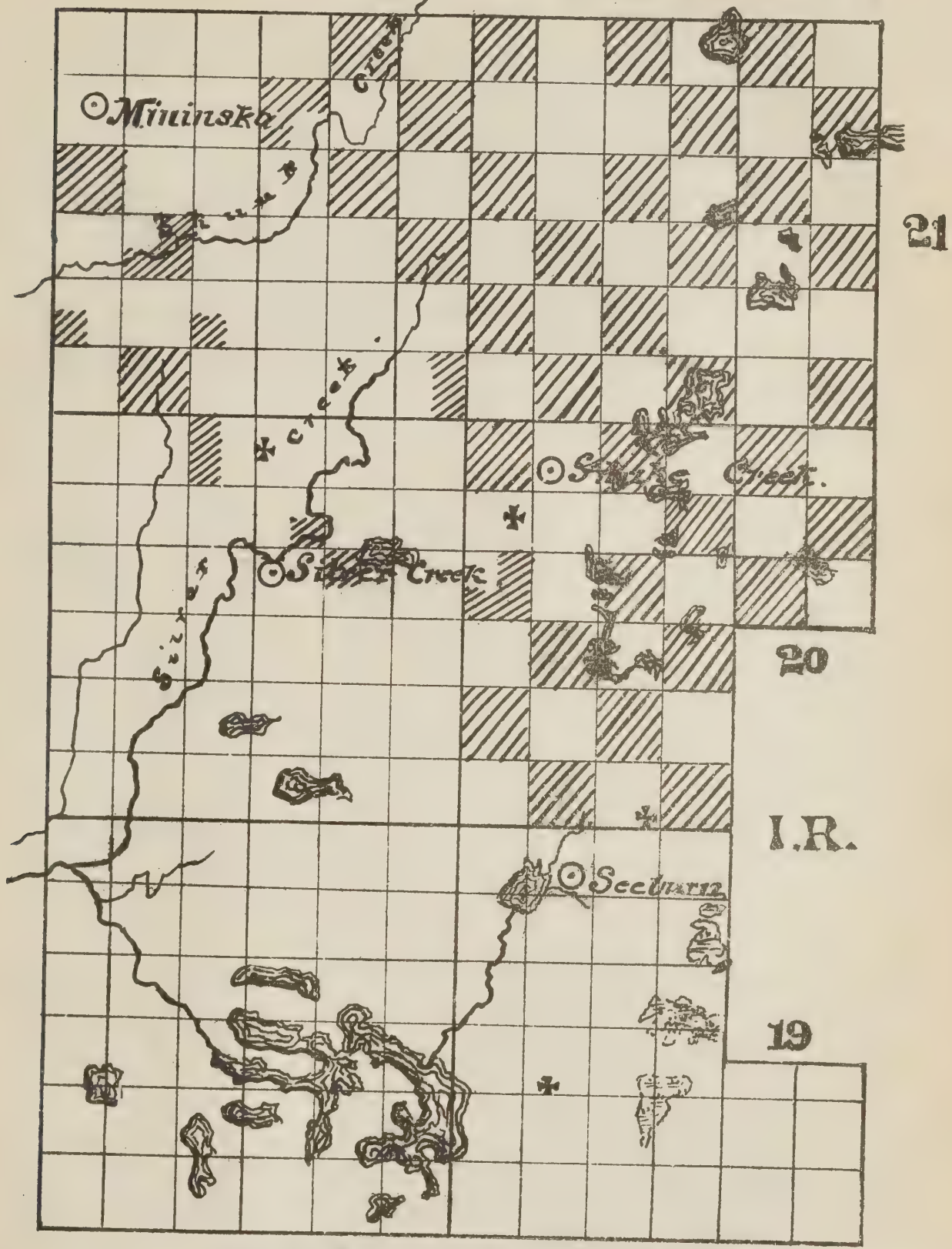
TP. 19, RGE. 26.—Rolling prairie, with some small ponds and marshes; also scattered clumps of poplar and willow and some scrub. It contains two lakes that have areas exceeding twenty acres. Soil first and second class. An Indian reserve takes seven sections in the north-east corner. Seeburn P.O. is on S.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 32 and Boyle school house is on S.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 17.

TP. 20, RGE. 26.—Prairie, with some heavy poplar, willow and hazel scrub. There is a chain of lakes of considerable size in the western portion of the township and numerous small ponds occur elsewhere. Six sections in the south-east corner are included in an Indian reserve. Soil principally first and second class. Sections 19 and 33 are excellent ones for farming, sections 21 and 25 are valuable for timber; all the rest of the railway land in this township is well adapted for mixed farming or stock-raising. St. Mary's school is on N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 30 and Seeburn school house on S.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 4, and Snake Creek P.O. on S.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 32.


TP. 21, RGE. 26.—This township is all bush, the timber being chiefly poplar and balm of Gilead, with some white birch scattered through it, the latter running from four to eight inches in diameter and the former ranging between six and twelve inches in diameter, while a few are to be found as large as twenty inches in diameter, the average being about nine inches. Two or three sections in the south-

# SILVER CREEK.

## MUNICIPALITY.



27. \* School Houses. 26. O Post Offices.

 M. and N-W-R-Y. Lands for Sale.





west corner of this township are tolerably open and suitable for settlement. The surface is of a rolling nature, and the soil throughout, on the whole, is first-class, chiefly sandy loam. It is traversed by Silver Creek, which runs diagonally across it from north-east to south-west corner; several other small creeks are also to be found throughout. There are three or four tolerably large lakes on the east side of the township and numerous marshes scattered throughout. The water in all the above is good. Fish are to be found in that lake touching the north boundary of sections 34 and 35.

TP. 19, RGE. 27.—The south-easterly portion of this township is much broken by lakes; the remainder is well adapted for agricultural purposes. The soil is a rich, black loam, and there is sufficient poplar for all purposes.

TP. 20, RGE. 27.—Nice rolling prairie sloping to south, with small bluffs of poplar and scrub dotting the surface. The soil is a rich, black loam six to thirty inches deep and containing a variable amount of sand, on a subsoil of light clay, with occasional stretches where it is sand and gravel. Silver Creek, a good, running stream of excellent water crosses township, and on section 23 there are two nice lakes. The upland grass is good, and most of sections have a good supply of meadow land. The creek, lakes and poplar groves combine to make this a very pretty township. The unsold railway sections are well suited for general farming. Silver Creek P.O. is on N.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 22, Silver Creek school house on N.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 34 and a good general store on section 35.

TP. 21, RGE. 27.—Rolling, with slope to south-west. Surface of north-east corner is covered with brush and timber and the rest is dotted over with poplar groves and clumps of scrub. A few small meadows and marshes. A number of small spring creeks rise in the north-east part in muskegs and flow in a south-westerly direction. The soil is good, being a rich, black, sandy loam six to twenty-four inches deep, on a subsoil of clay and sandy clay. Some nice meadow land along creeks. This is a very pretty township and some nice land is yet unsold. Mininska P.O. is on N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 30.

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## MUNICIPALITY OF BOULTON.

This Municipality is situated in the County of Russell and consists of townships 22 to 44, ranges 23 to 27. Except in the south-west corner this Municipality is unsettled, as it is heavily timbered and lies principally in the Riding and Duck Mountains.

TP. 22, RGE. 26.—The south-west portion of this township, which is the only part subdivided, is all brush, chiefly poplar and balm of Gilead, of a fine quality, some of it running to fourteen inches diameter. There is a good deal of white birch interspersed with it, running to six inches diameter. A belt ten chains wide of fine, tall, straight spruce, running to eight inches diameter, crosses the southern part of the east boundary of section 16, beginning a few chains to the west of this line and running in a north-easterly direction. The soil is chiefly sandy loam of a first-class quality; some of it, however, is of a light nature and only second class. The nature of the surface is somewhat hilly, with numerous marshes and some lakes.

TP. 22, RGE. 27.—The west half of this township is composed of prairie, scattered with clumps of small poplar which is fit for fence rails, while the east half is all bush, chiefly poplar and balm of Gilead, interspersed with some white birch on the extreme east side. The timber is small on the western outskirts, but gets larger towards the east boundary, where it is serviceable for building purposes. The surface is of a rolling nature and the soil throughout is of a first-class quality, being sandy loam and clay loam. There are three small lakes and numerous small marshes on the east half, and a few of the latter scattered throughout the township. Section 17 is an excellent one, and sections 3, 5, 7, 9, 15, 19, 21, 31 and west half of 33 are suitable for mixed farming.

TP. 23, RGE. 27.—This is a good township, nearly equally divided between woods and prairie and well watered by small lakes and ponds. The land rates first and second class. A good road, known as McKay's trail, runs through the westerly half. Section 3, N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of 7, 9 and S.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of 17 are good.

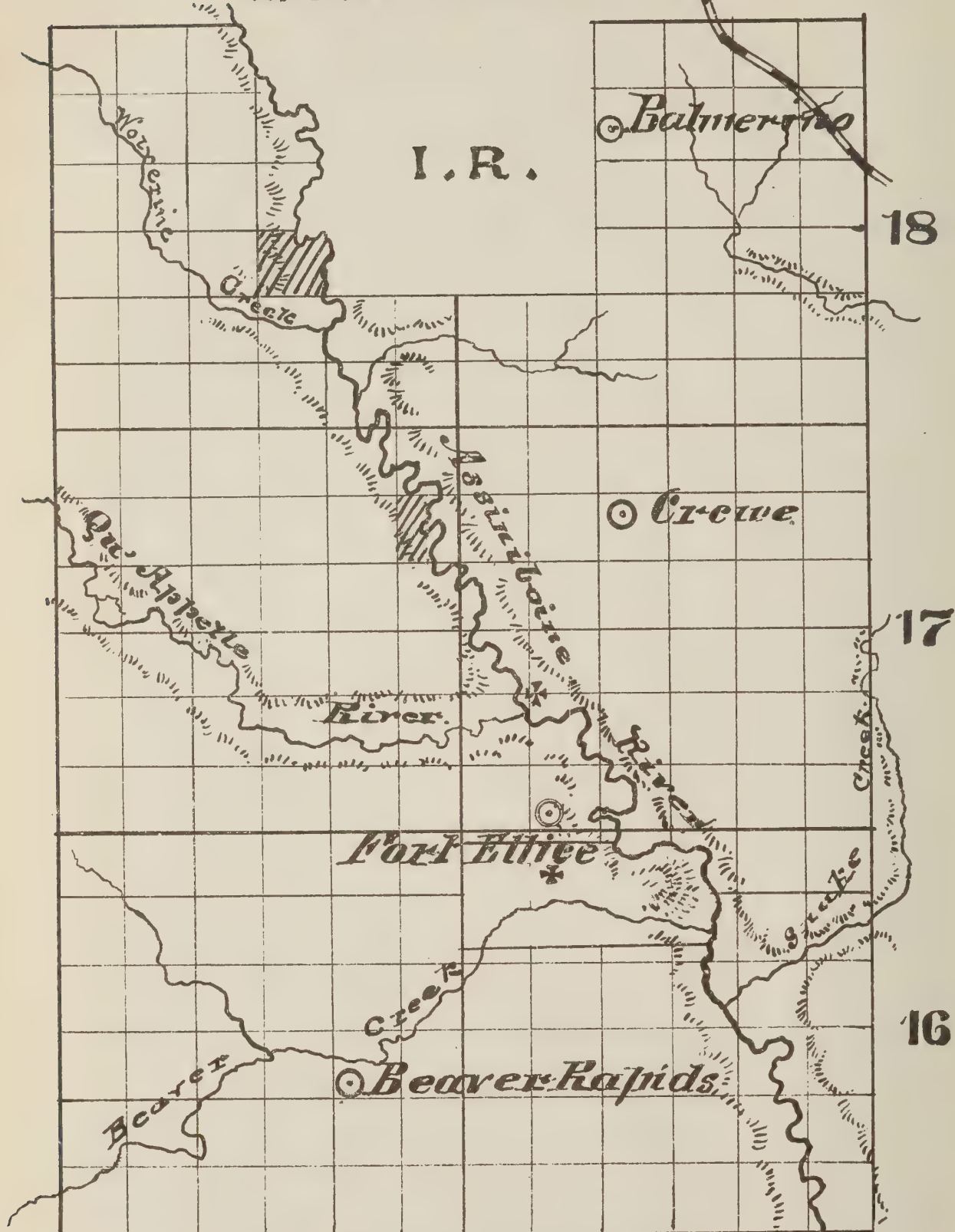
TP. 24, RGE. 27.—Covered with timber. The soil is excellent. There are a few small lakes and muskegs in the woods.





# ELLICE.

*Bismarck.*  
MUNICIPALITY.



29 ✕ School Houses. 28 ○ Post Offices.  
M&N-W-RY Lands for Sale.

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MUNICIPALITY OF ELLICE.

This Municipality is situated in the County of Shoal Lake and consists of townships 16 to 18, ranges 28 and 29. The M. & N. W. Ry. runs through the north-east corner and the Assiniboine River runs from north-west to south-east across the Municipality. The Qu'Appelle River joins the Assiniboine in this district. The Municipality contains four post offices and two school houses and is fairly well settled.

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TP. 17, RGE. 28.—Rolling prairie. The soil is a dark, friable loam, with clay subsoil. The township is watered by the Assiniboine River. There is a fair quantity of timber. Crewe P.O. is on N.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 28, and DeCorby school house is on section 17.

TP. 18, RGE. 28.—Rolling prairie, broken towards the north-west by deep ravines and gullies. The soil is very rich and deep. It is well watered by Snake Creek and two large creeks. There is a fair proportion of timber. There is an Indian reserve in the north-west quarter. The M. & N. W. Ry. crosses the north-east corner of this township. Balmerino P.O. is on the S.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 28.

TP. 17, RGE. 29.—The Qu'Appelle Valley crosses this township. Its high banks are crowned with timber. The soil in the valley is very good; elsewhere it is merely coarse sand. It is better adapted for grazing than grain-raising.

TP. 18, RGE. 29.—Traversed by the Assiniboine River. The banks of this river are well covered with poplar. The valley bottom is good but the remainder of the township is inferior. The north-east portion of the township is included in an Indian reserve.

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### MUNICIPALITY OF RUSSELL.

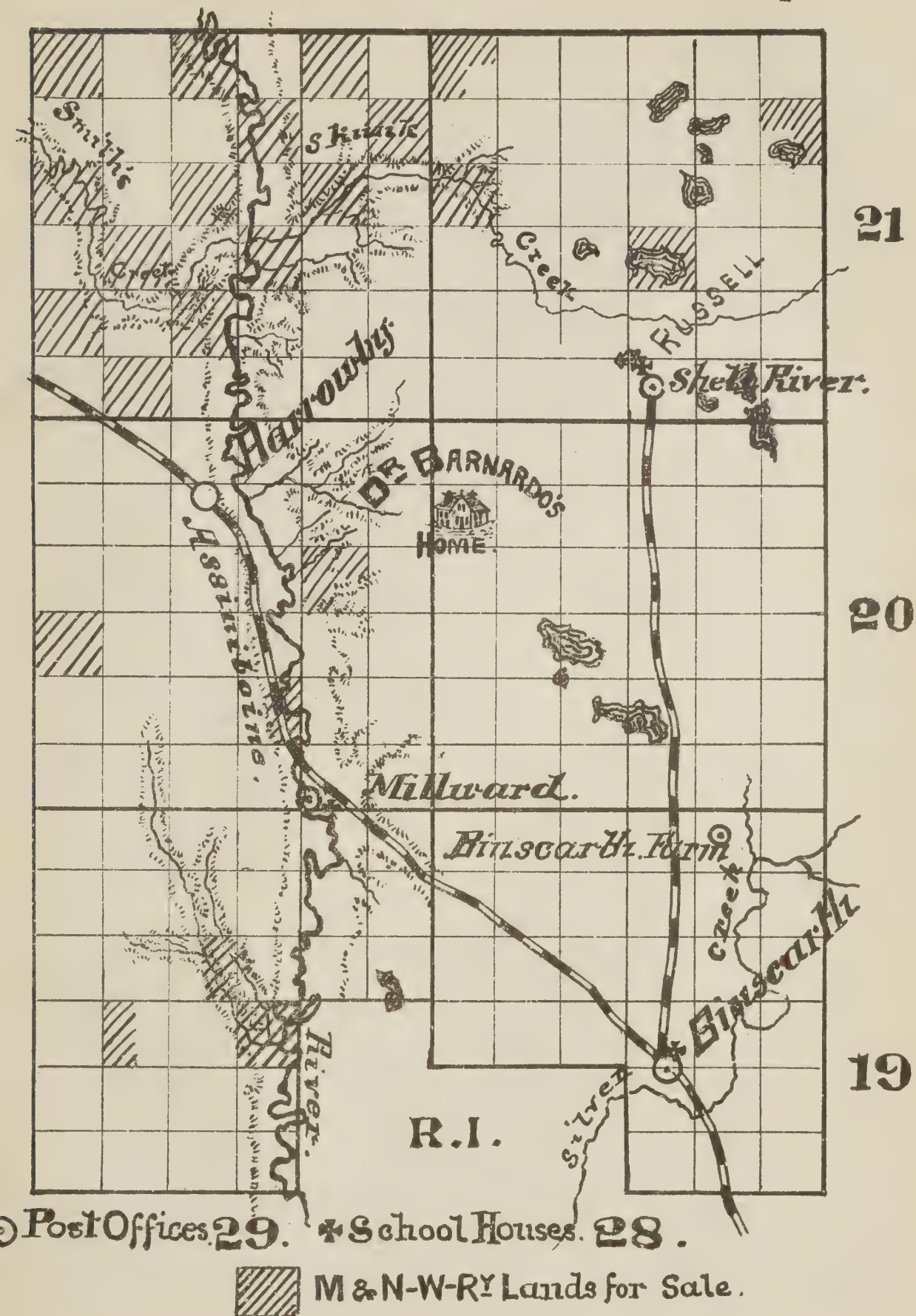
This Municipality is situated in the County of Russell and consists of townships 19 to 21, ranges 28 and 29. The M. & N. W. Ry. runs through the south-east corner of the Municipality in a north-westerly direction and the stations of Binscarth and Harrowby are situated within its boundaries. From Binscarth a branch line runs to Russell in the northern portion of the Municipality.

**BINSCARTH.**—This is a thriving village and contains good stores, hotels, etc., school and post office. Binscarth farm is situated on Silver Creek, about four miles north of this village. Operations on the farm were practically commenced in 1883, and during that season some 500 acres were brought under cultivation and the following buildings erected: Bank barn, 50ft. by 250ft., standing on the edge of the valley and capable of accommodating over 200 head of cattle, besides storing 300 tons of hay and from 8,600 to 10,000 bushels of grain; bank barn, 40 by 50; piggery, 16 by 48; implement shed and sheep house, 30 by 90; carpenter's shop, 16 by 20; storehouse, 14 by 18; blacksmith's shop, 16 by 20; store and hotel, one building, 40 by 50, with addition, 16 by 24; farm house, 20 by 30; hall, 24 by 42, in which services are held on Sundays. There were also purchased and taken to the farm in 1883 about 100 head of the best pure bred and high grade shorthorn cattle that could be found in Ontario, a few teams of working horses, some Southdown sheep and a number of Suffolk and Berkshire pigs; since that time new blood from Ontario has been added on several occasions, and of course many sales have been made by the farm both of the pure bred shorthorns and grades. The herd at present consists of over 200 head; and some of these, especially a few brought from Ontario during the spring of 1886, are said to be among the best in America. The wheat grown on the farm is of the first quality and last year yielded thirty-seven bushels to the acre, the heavy land for which this district is noted not suffering so much in dry weather as when it is lighter. Oats also are a most successful crop. The extent of land under cultivation, however, is not being increased, the object aimed at being that



# RUSSELL.

MUNICIPALITY.











VIEW OF BINSKARTH FARM, ON LINE OF MANITOBA AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.

of making Binscarth famous for fine cattle of the shorthorn breed, and this it is rapidly becoming. Anyone going to Manitoba, seeing this farm and what can be done in a comparatively short time, will be well repaid for the trouble; a warm welcome is accorded travellers by the manager, Mr. Smellie, who takes a just pride in showing his splendid cattle.

MILLWOOD village is situated in the valley of the Assiniboine and has large lumber and flour mills, general store, hotel, school and post office.

RUSSELL.—This village, which is the terminus of the branch railroad from Binscarth, has good stores, hotels, school, etc., and is becoming a good market point for the surrounding country. Dr. Barnardo's Home is about three miles west of this point, and is well worth a visit. Boys are sent here from England to be trained as farm laborers.

This Municipality is a well and favorably known district. The Assiniboine runs from north to south on the western side. It contains four post offices and three school houses.

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TP. 19, RGE. 28.—This township is well adapted for farming. Rolling prairie. The soil is a black loam. Sufficient poplar bush for all requirements. Binscarth Farm P.O. is on section 35 and Binscarth station, P.O. and school on section 15. Six sections in the south-west corner are taken up by part of an Indian reserve. The M. & N. W. Ry. runs across the township.

TP. 20, RGE. 28.—Well adapted for farming. The soil is a deep, black loam. There is enough poplar for settlers' requirements. On sections 10 and 18 there are two lakes.

TP. 21, RGE. 28.—Rolling prairie dotted over with small clumps of poplar and scrub and small lakes. Skunk Creek, a small stream of good water, flows across the township from east to west; over most of the distance the banks are only ten to twenty feet high, but on section 19, where it leaves the township, they are about 150 feet. The soil is good throughout, being a dark, sandy loam varying in depth from six to thirty inches; in a few places the subsoil is sand



and gravel, but such places are of small extent, the most of it being sandy clay or clay. Nearly every section has a liberal supply of wood and hay meadow, and all have as much arable upland as is desirable for cultivation. No prettier lands in Manitoba. Shell River P.O. is on section 3, at the village of Russell, where there is a school house, two stores, hotel, livery stable, etc.

TP. 19, RGE. 29.—The land is undulating and gravelly. East of the river the soil is fair, but broken by ravines. There are a few bluffs of poplar. Six sections in the south-east corner are taken up by an Indian reserve.

TP. 20, RGE. 29.—West of the Assiniboine River the land is fairly well suited for settlement but is well wooded with poplar, birch and oak. On the east side the soil is good but broken by ravines. The M. & N. W. Ry. runs diagonally across the township from south-east to north-west, crossing the Assiniboine in the south-east corner. Millwood school and P.O. are on section 2.

TP. 21, RGE. 29.—Surface of upland gently undulating, with some small ponds, etc. Township is broken by the ravines of Assiniboine River and Skunk and Smith's Creeks. The Assiniboine flows from north to south through centre of township. It is two or three chains wide and has good current; the valley is one to one and a half miles wide, with rough and steep banks 150 to 200 feet deep. Skunk Creek, flowing from the east, and Smith's Creek from the west both join the river near centre of township; they both have deep and wide ravines at junction and these grow less as they recede from the river. Soil is generally a sandy loam on gravelly clay, with sand and gravel in parts near banks; along the ravine there are bluffs of poplar, etc., (some of a very good size), which will furnish fuel, fencing, etc., and on upland also there are scattering bluffs of small poplar, which add to the appearance of the land. The water in river and both creeks is very good. Grass on upland is fair, and around the ponds, etc., and in places along the Assiniboine and Smith's Creek hay can be cut. There are a number of boulders and stones on and near banks of ravines. Most of the upland is very good farm land, and the township being broken by the river and creeks, is in many parts very picturesque.



## MUNICIPALITY OF SHELL RIVER.

This municipality is situated on the county of Russell and consists of townships 22 to 44 in ranges 28 and 29. The Assiniboine and Shell rivers run south through the municipality to township 22, where they unite. By their influence they give the land a very picturesque appearance, besides enhancing its value, by affording an unfailing supply of hay, water and wood for fuel and buildings. A branch of the M. & N. W. Railway terminates at Russell, about six miles from the southern boundary. The municipality possesses five post offices and two school houses. Each Sunday divine service is held at the principal points alternately by the three great denominations. The district has been well and favorably known for some time to possess great attraction to the farmer who wishes to raise stock, make dairy produce and grow grain. Shellmouth, pleasantly and beautifully situated at the side of the river in the valley of the Assiniboine, at this place a swing bridge costing over \$13,000 crosses the river. The village possesses store, school, hotels and post office with mail communication twice each week. Great numbers of cattle, horses and sheep are raised and grazed in the vicinity. Assensippi is very picturesquely situated in the valley of the Shell River, and enjoys unrivalled advantages in respect to water power, already utilized for gristing and sawing purposes. The roller process flour mill has a capacity of 50 barrels daily. It does a large gristing business, and regularly ships flour to Ontario, thereby utilizing a great portion of the wheat grown in the neighborhood. The saw has a manufacturing capacity of 10,000 feet daily, these both are great advantages to the district. The village also possesses a town hall, store, hotel, feed stable, blacksmith shop and postal communication twice each week.

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TP. 22, RGE. 28.—Surface is rolling, with a general slope to the south west. In the south west corner there is a decided fall, sections 5 and 7 being considerably lower than the rest. Thunder Creek flows through the township, passing through sections 1, 15, 17, 19,

there are some drains, ravines, etc., running into this which afford good drainage. Soil, generally speaking, is a rich sandy loam on clay or sandy clay subsoil, with gravel in places; along the west side the soil is lighter with an admixture of gravel. Township is dotted over with clumps of scrub, and in some parts bluffs of poplar which afford good shelter and are useful for fuel and fencing, the poplar bluffs also add considerably to the appearance of the country, some places along the creek being exceptionably pretty. Thunder Creek is about three feet wide and one to two feet deep, has very good running water, the sloughs are numerous and are mostly shallow and small. The growth of grass on upland is very fair, and around marshes, in ravines and along creek, etc., hay can be cut, though not in large quantities. With the exception of sections one and seven, which are rather stony in parts, there are only a few scattered, imbedded stones. As a whole the township is very well adapted for farming.

TP. 23, RGE. 28.—The Shell River flows through the township, on which are several fine mill sites. A bridge crosses the river at Assessippi, a thriving village situate on section 3. The land on the west bank of the Shell River is very rich, consisting of black loam two to three feet deep. On the east bank the land is covered with poplar, interspersed with hay meadows.

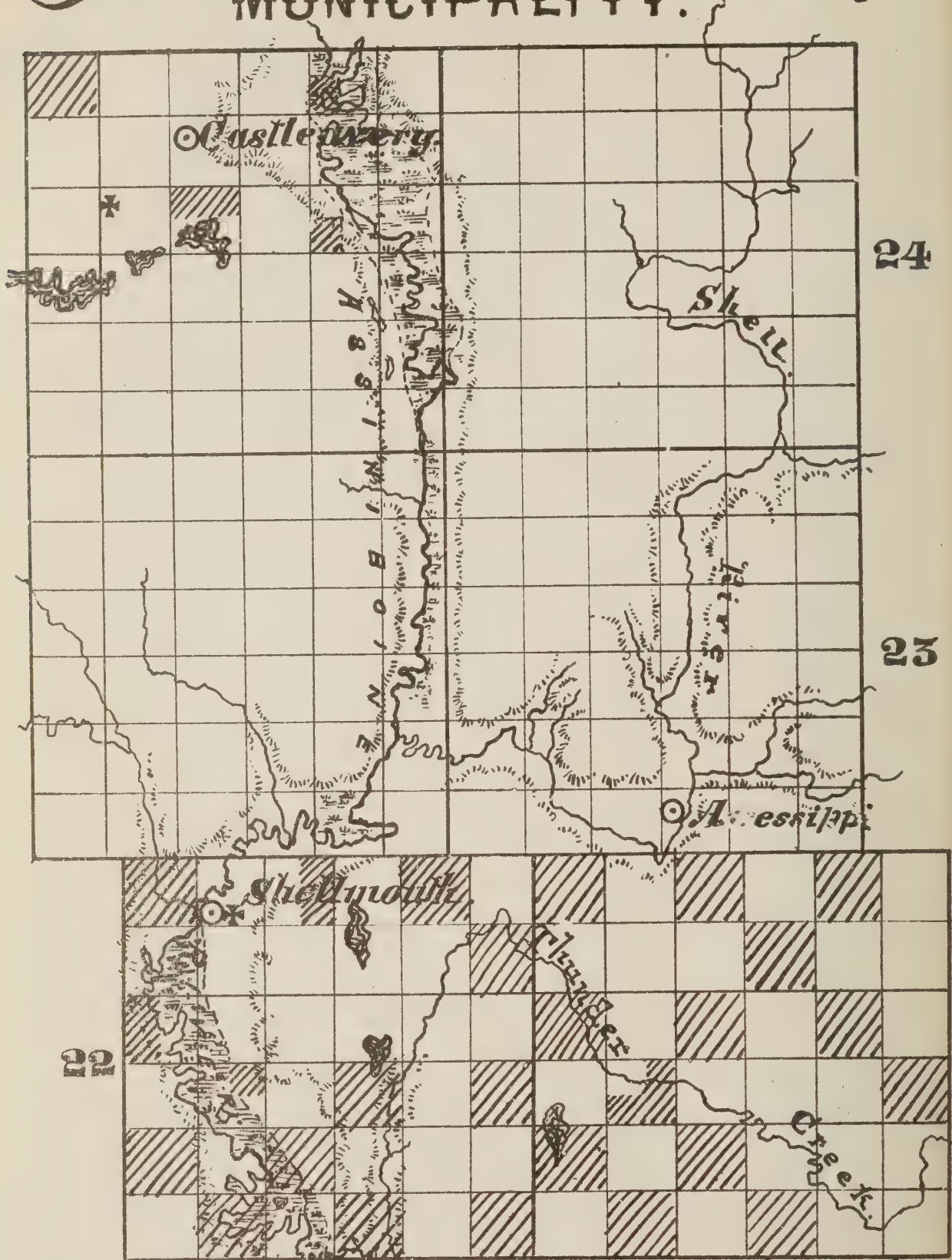
TP. 24, RGE. 28.—The Shell River runs through the township, the banks being 250 feet deep and in many places covered with poplar. On the east bank the land is chiefly covered with poplar, but there are several good sections fit for settlement. On the west side the land is good, but broken with hills and ravines near the river. The main trail to Fort Pelley passes through this township from Assessippi. It has abundance of timber suitable for building purposes.

TP. 22, RGE. 29.—Down the west half of township the Assiniboine flows in the usual winding course through a valley 150 to 200 feet deep, the descent to which on the east side is by a long, gentle open slope, and on west by a rugged bank covered with poplar. Thunder Creek, a small stream of good water, flows in a south-easterly direction and joins the Assiniboine River on section four. Where it joins the river the valley is about two hundred feet deep, but it





# PART OF SHELL RIVER. MUNICIPALITY.



○ Post Offices 29 ✕ School Houses 28.



M and N.W.R.Y Land for Sale.

gradually becomes shallower and on section twenty-five it is not more than ten feet below prairie level. The soil varies considerably, on east tier of sections and on upland on west side is a good sandy loam 18 inches deep on clay sub-soil; from east side up to river soil is light and sandy on sand and gravel subsoil. West bank of river is well timbered with poplar, suitable for house logs, fencing and fuel. Along east side of river, in valley of creek and in groves on upland there is also a plentiful supply of fencing and fuel. On sections 27 and 34 there is a very pretty lake with sandy shores and banks edged with poplar. The grass on sandy land is poor, but on east and west where soil is better, growth is good and abundance of hay around marshes. Some of the valley land would be quite suitable for stock, the water supply being permanent, and a large amount of meadow land close at hand, this is particularly the case with section 31. Shellmouth post office and school house are on S.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 32.

TP. 23, RGE. 29.—The Assiniboine river runs through the eastern and southern sections of this township, the valley being a mile or more in width, consisting chiefly of splendid hay meadow. The Shell empties into this river on section 12, and two creeks run through the south west quarter. There is some poplar on the bank of the Assiniboine, and there is a maple grove at the mouth of the Shell river, where Indians resort for making sugar. On the prairie level in the south east quarter there are some pretty poplar groves, but on going towards the north west quarter, you find the land bare of trees, well suited for tilling, and with some sloughs where good hay can be cut. The soil is good.

TP. 24, RGE. 29.—Slightly rolling and broken on the east by the Assiniboine River and its tributaries. The soil is rich, and there is plenty of hay and good water. Several clumps of poplar are scattered about. Castleavery post office is on N.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 28 and school house on N.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 20.



## LANGENBURG AGENCY.

This agency extends from townships 19 to 25, ranges 30 to 34. The M. & N. W. Ry. Co. own all the odd-numbered sections in this agency, which are for sale on easy terms. The Railway runs through township 21, ranges 30 and 31, with the station and village of Langenburg on section 27, township 21, range 31. At Langenburg there is a detachment of the Mounted Police, and the Railway Company has built a comfortable house for the free reception of immigrants. There are good stores at this point. The district is fast becoming settled. The Railway line is located to the west and the town site of Churchbridge is laid out on section 17, township 22, range 32. At this point there is a Church of England settlement. The district is well wooded to the north.

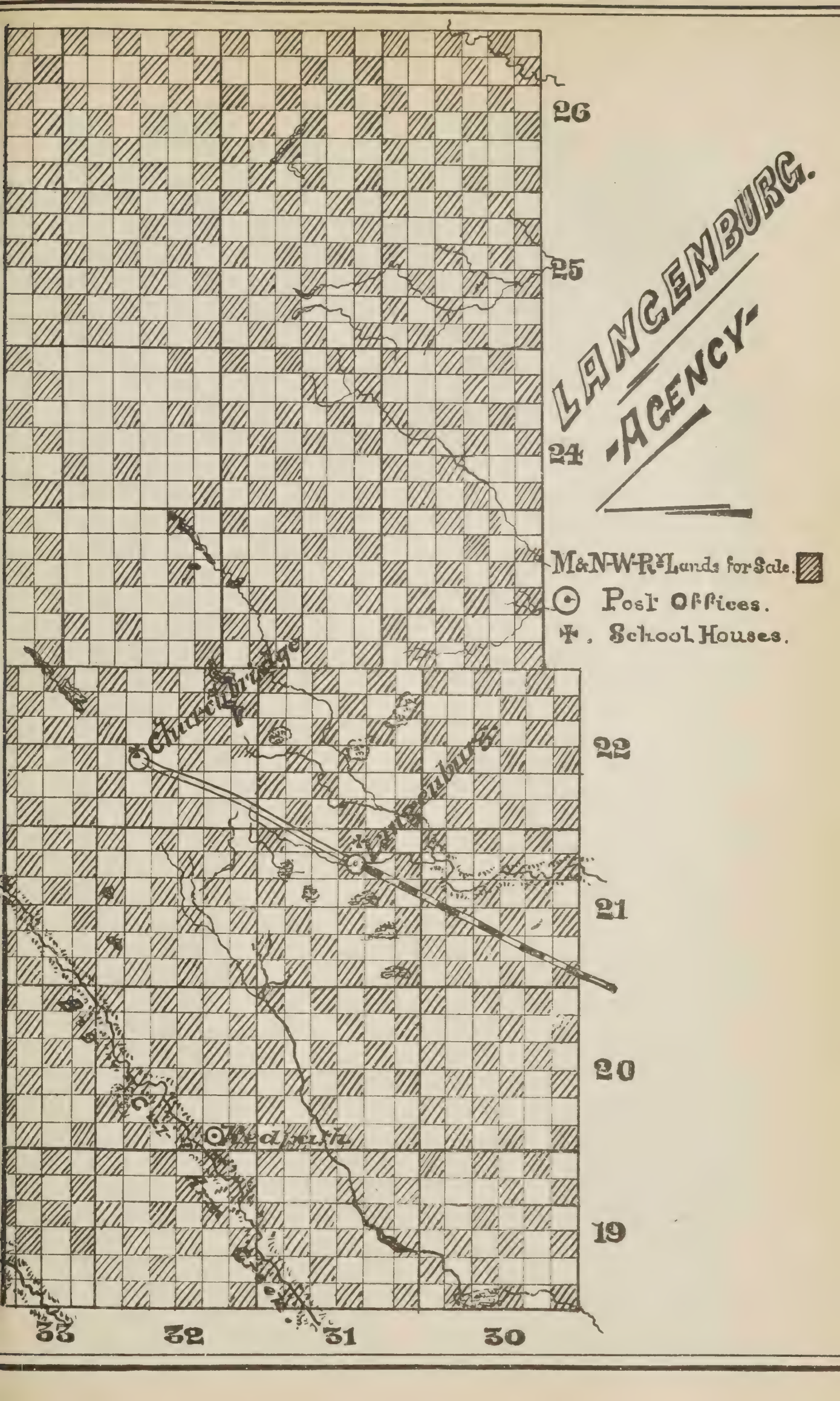
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TP. 19, RGE. 30.—This township is only fairly suited for settlement. The soil is for the most part gravelly. The country is undulating, and marshes and willow swamps are very numerous. In sections 1, 12, 13, 14, 11 and 2 the soil is light and sandy and there are some large bluffs of poplar. Wolverine Creek, a stream of good water, runs through the most southerly range of sections.

TP. 20, RGE. 30.—The soil is not of a very good quality, being for the most part gravelly. The land is undulating and marshes and willow swamps are numerous. In the northern part there are some bluffs of poplar of medium size.

TP. 21, RGE. 30.—Is undulating prairie, with Smith's Creek crossing north half, and is dotted over with small groves of poplar and scrub. Banks of creek are twenty to forty feet high. Soil is a good, sandy loam, with a little gravel in places, on a sandy and gravelly clay subsoil. Building timber is scarce but on east half there is enough rail timber and fuel to last some time. In July, at time of examination, creek was dry. A few ponds and marshes on upland and a nice, small lake on section 23. Good water has also been obtained by





26

25

24

**LANGENBURG.**  
**-AGENCY-**

- M&NWR Lands for Sale.
- ⊙ Post Offices.
- ✕ School Houses.

22

21

20

19

33

32

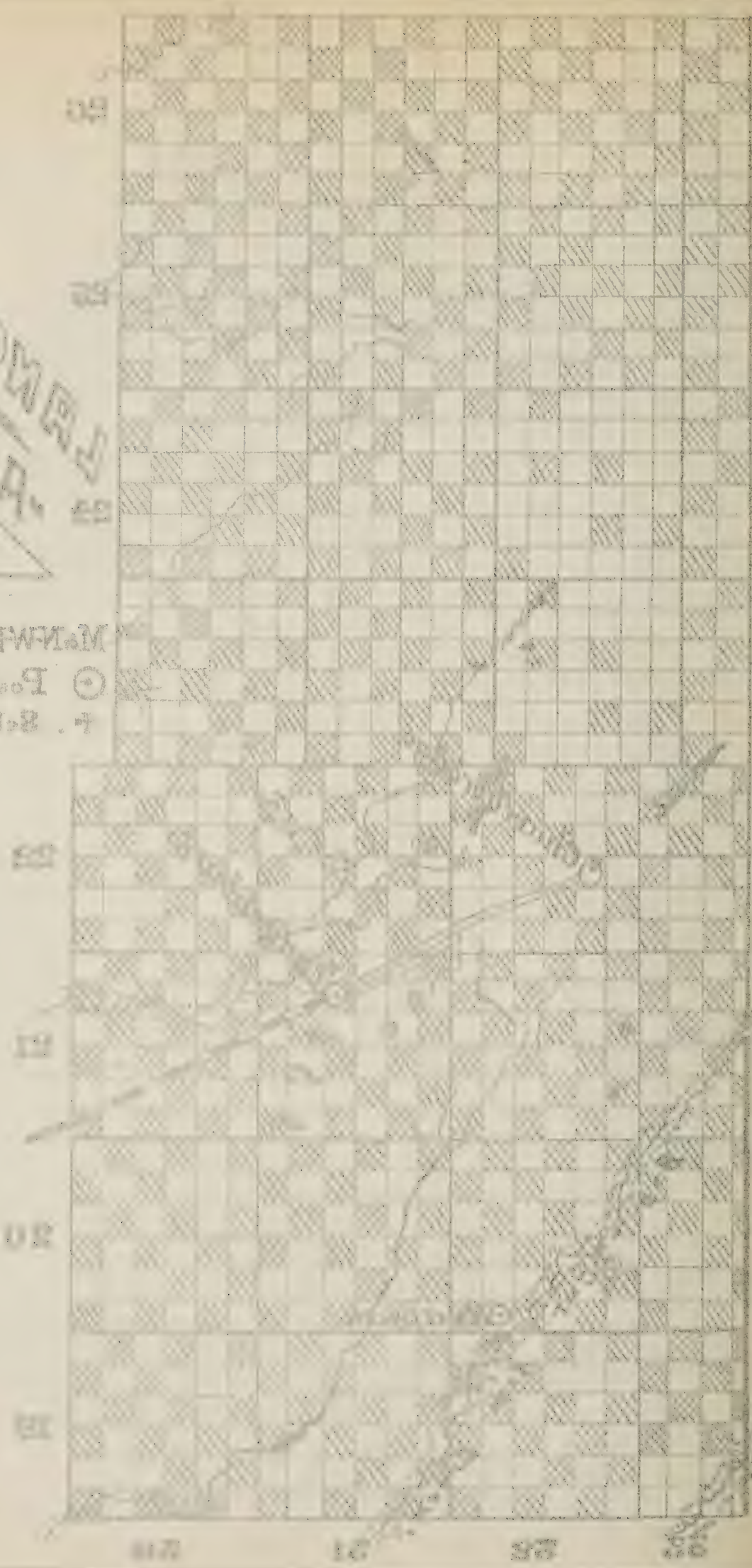
31

30



AGENCY  
 BUREAU

Mr. W. R. ...  
 Post Office  
 School House



digging twenty feet. Good grass all over township and nearly every section has meadow enough for a large number of stock. All things considered this is a very desirable township for settlement and nearly all the railway lands are choice. The railway runs diagonally across the township.

TP. 22, RGE. 30.—Varies from undulating, with flat tracts, to rolling, and all much cut up by marshes, meadows and meadow-edged ponds and banks of Assiniboine River in north-east corner. Soil is all good, being a dark, sandy loam ten to twenty-four inches deep, on a subsoil varying from clay to sandy clay. Timber is somewhat scarce, there being only a few small groves of poplar in the south-east part; over other parts there is some scattered willow and poplar scrub of little value. All the sections have a good many small, shallow ponds and marshes with fair water and around the outside edge a broad belt of meadow, the grass in which is often four and five feet high. Most of the sections are well fitted for mixed farming and along the east side, where the poplar groves are, the land has a very pretty appearance.

TP. 23, RGE. 30.—Gently undulating prairie, dotted over with innumerable marshes and meadows, both large and small, and clumps of willow and poplar scrub. The soil is a good, black, sandy loam ten to thirty inches deep, on clay subsoil with sand and gravel in higher parts. In wet seasons a large extent of surface will be under water and there is very little natural drainage. The ponds and marshes were in July, the date of examination, mostly dry; those not dry have nearly all alkali water. The upland grass is a good growth and nearly all the marshes have a broad strip of meadow around them. All the sections have a fair amount of arable land and are suitable for mixed farming.

TP. 24, RGE. 30.—A township of undulating prairie dotted over with clumps of scrub and small poplar groves. A dry water course crosses the south-west part of township, and along this the land is fairly free from sloughs, but where not drained by this there are a good many marshes and ponds. In July, at time of examination, a good many of these water beds were dry, and those that were not



contained shallow, alkaline water. All have a good, broad belt of meadow land surrounding them ; the upland grass is also good. Soil is generally good, being a black, sandy loam six to thirty inches deep, on clay subsoil, but along north and east subsoil changes to sand. Some of the uplands have a very pretty appearance, and all will make fair land for mixed farming. No difficulty will be found in getting hay for a large number of stock on any section.

TP. 25, RGE. 30.—The surface varies from almost level to rolling, a little irregular on south and east tiers of sections in places, with a number of broad, low tracts made by long but scarcely perceptible slopes ; these low parts and the slopes as well are mostly covered with a dense growth of small, short willow and other scrub and appear to have been swamped in wet seasons. Natural drainage good. In low parts the soil is dark, sandy loam, fair to good, changing to a poor loam and sand over greater part of high land, excepting at the south-west corner, where it is good. On south-west sections there is some poplar suitable for cordwood and rail timber, and considerable small poplar and other scrub ; other parts of township have bluffs of small poplar and large areas covered with brule and different kinds of scrub. The bodies of water and dry ponds are not numerous, but a considerable area will be more or less wet in wet seasons, all of which, however, could be drained. The water is generally good, with some springs and springy spots in places, especially along and near drains and creeks. Grass varies from good at south-west to poor over other parts, with a few small meadows of good hay. The low lands in many parts have great quantities of large boulders ; a few on uplands. As a whole this township is only a fairly desirable one for settlement, owing to the light nature of soil which, over the greater part, is too poor to be of much use for farming.

TP. 26, RGE. 30.—This township is much broken in the eastern and northern parts by the valley of the Assiniboine River, and heavily timbered, consisting of poplar, balm of Gilead, oak, maple, birch and a few scattered pines and large willow, the latter principally near the river. Some of the timber is large, from twelve to eighteen inches in diameter, and may be manufactured into lumber. The greater part of the township is level and covered with a dense growth of willow

scrub. The soil is clay and sandy loam, except in the valley, where it is deep, black loam; on side hills gravelly and sandy. The valley of the river is both wide and deep. The land in this township is well suited for settlement. There is abundance of good water.

TP. 19, RGE. 31.—Nearly all of this township is rolling prairie, the soil in the easterly two miles being sandy and that in the westerly four miles being of better quality, though in it considerable sand and gravel are mixed with the loam. Along the valley of the Cut Arm are bluffs of poplar and oak with dense underbrush. Wolverine Creek has clear spring water and at one place in the township it expands and forms a beautiful lake. Though there is no timber except along Cut Arm, there are numerous bluffs of willow, hazel and small poplar scattered throughout the township. Spyhill is on the north of section 1 and can be seen for some distance.

TP. 20, RGE. 31.—The soil is of fair quality, gravelly loam with clay subsoil, but there are too many hills and swamps to render it very desirable for farming purposes. Along Wolverine Creek the country is not so much broken by hills and ponds and hence is much more suitable for settlement. Wolverine Creek has an average width of about eight feet, with a depth of about one foot, and the water is of excellent quality. Bluffs of poplar and willow are found at intervals throughout the township but are more numerous in the eastern and south-western portions of it. There is no timber suitable for building purposes and very little for firewood.

. TP. 21, RGE. 31.—Varies from rolling to low and flat; is high at west side and has a good fall to east, except at south-west corner, which has south-west slope. A great portion is covered with chains of ponds and dry marshes surrounded by meadow and flat land and many very small meadows. The ponds are shallow and nearly all the marshes are dry. On the north half are some dry watercourses or natural drains running eastward to Smith's Creek; these afford a ready means of disposing of many of the marshes and the south-west portion also has natural drainage to Wolverine Creek. The soil is a dark, sandy loam, mostly about 15 inches deep, on light clay subsoil, except on some of the highest portions, where it inclines to sand. No



timber, but most of the sections have considerable low willow scrub. Ponds and marshes are surrounded by broad tracts of meadow with very long grass, affording on each section a large amount of hay. Owing to the broken nature of the surface no very large tracts of arable land can be had, but for mixed farming this would be a desirable township. The Railway runs to section 27, on which is situated the village of Langenburg, with P.O., stores, hotel, etc.

TP. 22, RGE. 31.—Surface is mostly low and flat, the dry or upland having an elevation of only from five to ten feet above the low land level, except in the immediate vicinity of drain on east of township. Soil is a sandy loam from eight to eighteen inches deep, on a sand and gravelly clay subsoil, and very suitable for farming where dry. The low, marshy land, which includes fully one-half of area of township, will yield an immense quantity of coarse hay or good summer pasture, making township a very suitable one for stock-raising or mixed farming.

TP. 23, RGE. 31.—This township consists of gently rolling to undulating upland, with a great deal of low, flat land and numerous ponds, sloughs and meadows. The soil is mostly a sandy loam on a sandy and gravelly clay subsoil, with a gravelly top soil on ridges. Rates generally one and a half, though some parts would rate one. Alkali shows rather strongly in nearly all the low places around ponds, etc. Surface is scattered over with willow scrub thickly on north-east and slightly on south-west. There is some small poplar towards north-west of township, where some fence rails might be cut. There are numerous scattering ponds and sloughs, containing one to three feet of water in July, all of which is alkaline; there are also a great many marshes and low spots which are dry now but would probably contain water at an earlier season. There is a lake at south of section 19, which contains fairly good water and is apparently deep. The growth of grass on the upland is generally good, in low, alkaline lands, poor. Around nearly all the sloughs there is a belt of strong and rather coarse meadow grass, and also in and around the dry marshes and meadows, which will afford a plentiful supply of hay, which should recommend the township to those contemplating the raising of stock. There are some boulders and stones but they are



principally confined to the dry marshes and low spots. Most of the township is fairly well adapted to general farming, though there is some poor land, and in parts scrub would have to be cleared. Nearly all parts of township very well meet the requirements of a stock farm.

TP. 24, RGE. 31.—Surface is undulating and a good deal broken up by marshes and ponds, and all more or less covered with scrub and a good deal of brule on west half. About five square miles on north of township is covered with a growth of nice, straight poplar and scrub; of this not more than one-quarter would be poplar. The soil is a good, dark, sandy loam, varying in depth from six to twenty inches, on a white clay subsoil. Nearly all the marshes and ponds are dry; those that are not have shallow pools of very alkaline water. Excellent grass all over township, and around the scrub a rank growth of peavine and vetches, and plenty of meadow hay on every section. So much of surface is broken by marsh that land cannot be very highly recommended for farming, but a good deal of it will do for stock.

TP. 25, RGE. 31.—The land in this township is, wherever dry, of an excellent quality, yet, owing to the manner in which it is cut up by sloughs, swamps and marshes, it is not very well suited for settlement. There is an abundance of timber to meet the wants of settlers. Sections 1 and 2 and the most northerly range of sections are comparatively dry. Wherever not wooded with poplar the land is thickly overgrown with willow and scrub.

TP. 26, RGE. 31.—This township is undulating and overgrown by willows and bluffs of poplar. In the south part there are some large bluffs of timber, some marshes and a few lakes. Along the east boundary boulders appear numerous. Whenever dry, the soil is of an excellent quality, but swamps are numerous. There is an abundance of building and fencing timber.

TP. 19, RGE. 32.—The western and southern portions of this township contain numerous swamps separated by ridges ranging from ten to thirty feet high. The soil between the swamps, except on the tops

of the ridges, is of good quality. The north-eastern portion of the township has fewer swamps and numerous bluffs of poplar. There is not, however, sufficient timber for wood lots, though there is a small amount suitable for building purposes.

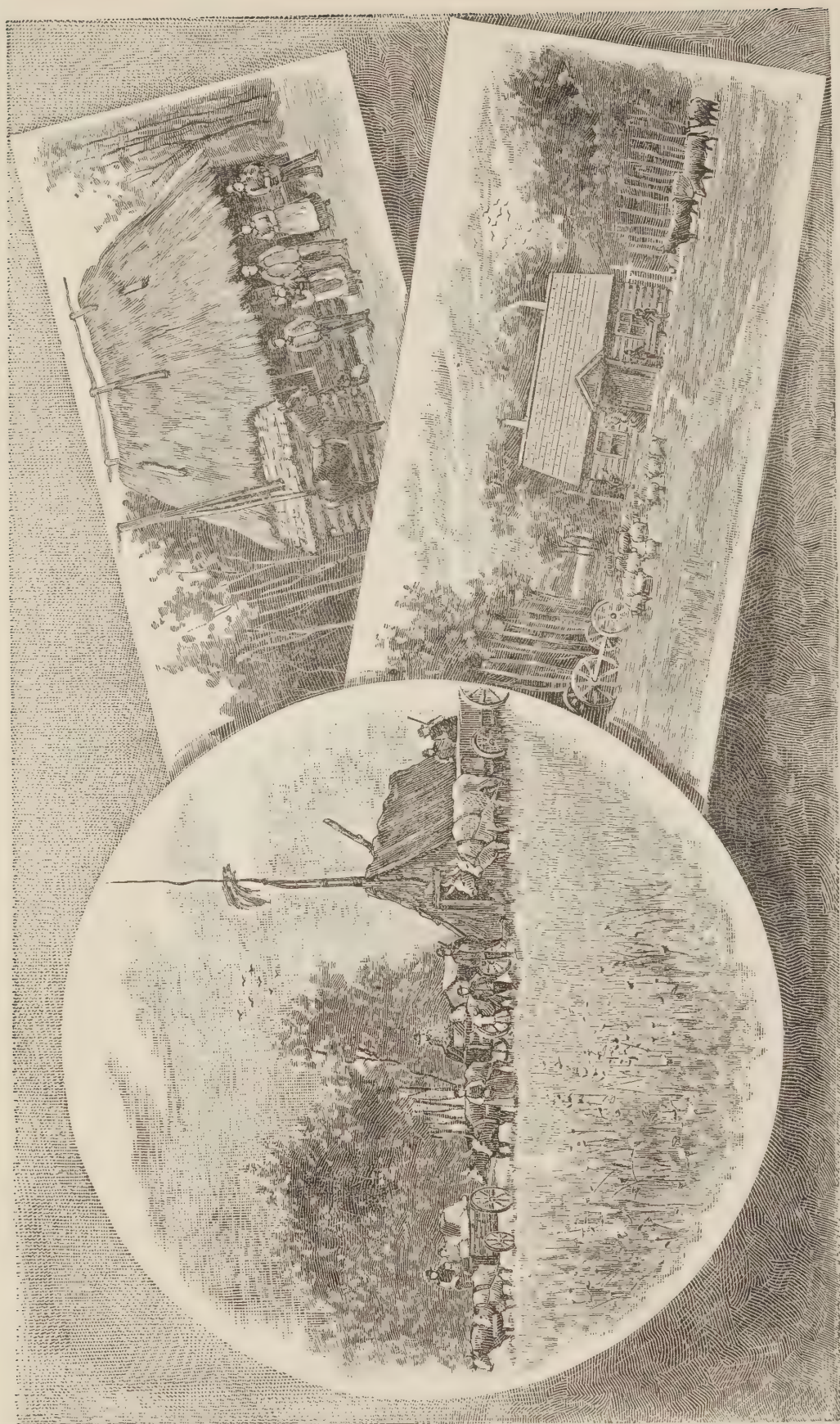
TP. 20, RGE. 32.—The township may be described generally as rolling prairie broken by swamps and ponds. The valley of the Cut Arm Creek is about 150 feet below the level of the surrounding prairie, and has more numerous bluffs of poplar and oak than the rest of the township, and where not wooded is covered nearly throughout by thickets of hazel, willow, etc. The Cut Arm Creek has a average width of about 12 feet and a depth of 2 feet, and the water is of fair quality. There is some timber in the valley suitable for building purposes and firewood. Redpath post office is on section 2.

TP. 21, RGE. 32.—Nice undulating prairie land with some small clumps of scrub on south west quarter and traversed by a dry water course or creek and several natural drains, which afford good drainage. A large part of township is free from ponds or sloughs, but the north east corner is thickly covered with them; shallow lakes with marshy edges, and good water on sections seven and nineteen. Soil is good black sandy loam 6 to 20 inches deep, with gravel on high places, on a subsoil varying at short intervals from good clay to sand, the greater part being a mixture of the two. Grass is good all over and small meadows on nearly every section, with a fair amount of hay and some few sections having enough to support a large number of stock. The large tracts of unbroken land on many of sections will make this a very desirable township.

TP. 22, RGE. 32.—Varies in surface from nearly level to rolling with a general slope to south. At south is free from scrub but gradually becomes scrubby towards north, and as centre of north side is thickly covered with young poplar and scrub with a few small clumps fit for rails and fuel on sections 21, 25, 27, 33 and 35, and on one or two sections a few house logs. Some of the sections are nearly free from ponds, and other adjoining sections have about a third of surface covered with them. Nice lakes on sections 25 and 13, and also a large chain of alkali ponds on section 25. Soil is good black loam







From Photographs.

PIONEER DWELLINGS ERECTED BY SETTLERS ON THE LINE OF THE MANITOBA AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.

1. First arrival on the land—temporary shelter.
2. Log house for first season, afterwards used as stable.
3. Good log house erected during the winter.



with 10 to 30 per cent. of sand on a clay subsoil with some sand in places and occasional gravel ridges. Rates 1. Grass is all good, and in many places the growth can only be described as luxuriant; among scrub in many places pea vine grows to a height of two or three feet, and nearly every section will cut a large amount of meadow hay. At south of township are a number of sections well suited for mixed farming, and at north land is more broken and more suitable for stock. Some sections decidedly pretty. Churchbridge town site is on section 17.

TP. 23, RGE. 32.—Part of section 1, and all of 13, 23, 25, 27, 33 and 35 have large alkali ponds surrounded by flat alkali land which is of little value. The south west quarter of township is rolling and covered with poplar and scrub, and will furnish fencing and fuel required for rest of township. Ponds and marshes all over west half and small meadows with plenty of hay; luxuriant pea vine also in south west quarter. Soil is excellent, being a black sandy mould 10 to 24 inches deep on clay and in parts sandy clay. A few good sections, but much of land is not very valuable; timber may, however prove an attraction.

TP. 24, RGE. 32.—Undulating to rolling surface with ponds and sloughs between the ridges and small clumps of young poplar and scrub on upland with occasional trees and groves of dead poplar. Soil is first class, being a black sandy mould 6 to 24 inches deep on clay subsoil. Township is free from alkali, has good water and hay in abundance. The north west part has some sections of particularly choice land. With hay so plentiful, wood close at hand, and good soil, this township will no doubt prove attractive for settlers desiring stock farming in a small way.

TP. 25, RGE. 32.—The land in this township is, wherever dry, of an excellent quality. In the east half there is a number of large bluffs of poplar, but swamps and marshes are so numerous as to render it undesirable for settlement. The west half has at one time been well wooded, but fires have of late years swept over it. The trees, which are mostly standing, will for many years be suitable for firewood. Along the south and west boundaries the country is more open and is overgrown with willow and scrub.

TP. 26, RGE. 32.—The land throughout this township is of good quality but is very much broken up by swamps, sloughs and marshes. There are some large bluffs of poplar suitable for building purposes and belts of dry poplar fit for fuel. The general character is undulating, and where not timbered is overgrown with willow and scrub.

TP. (Fractional) 19, RGE. 33.—Quality of soil third class. The Little Cut Arm enters the township in section 9, leaving it in section 3. The valley of the Cut Arm is about half a mile wide and about 200 feet below the level of the plain, which is rolling prairie, rather stony and full of small ponds and marshes, many of which are alkaline. There are numerous bluffs of poplar and patches of poplar and willow scrub.

TP. (Fractional) 20, RGE. 33.—General quality of soil, third class. Country rolling prairie, with numerous bluffs of poplar and willow, very much broken by small ponds and hay marshes.

TP. (Fractional) 21, RGE. 33.—This township adjoins the second meridian line and is only a little over three miles in width. It contains a large percentage of good land and is not so badly broken up by marshes and ponds as the townships to the north and west, although there is a considerable number of ponds along its eastern portions. There is a considerable quantity of small poplar scattered all over the township. Big Cut Arm Creek flows through the township, entering on section 21 and flowing out on section 1. It flows through a deep valley of about a quarter of a mile in width and over a hundred feet deep. The stream itself is small, being only about from fifteen to twenty feet wide and from two to three feet deep. There is not much fall on it through this township, not sufficient for power. The water is clear, spring water. On the whole this may be considered a very fair township for farming purposes.

TP. (Fractional) 22, RGE. 33.—Surface is generally undulating, and sections 9, 15, 23, 27 and 33 are all more or less covered with brule, scrub and young poplar. The south and east parts of township have some tracts of open land free from sloughs. Section 3 has a nice lake in the centre and is altogether one of the prettiest sections in the district. Section 35 also has a pretty lake. Soil is a black, sandy



mould ten to twenty-four inches deep, on sandy clay. Grass everywhere is good, and plenty of hay. Very well suited for mixed farming.

TP. (Fractional) 23, RGE. 33.—A fractional township, only two miles wide. Land mostly rolling or undulating and dotted over with small meadows and low spots. A lake on sections 1 and 2. Soil is sandy and gravelly loam three to twenty inches deep, on subsoil of sandy clay. Some scattered bush on nearly all the sections, and on sections 1, 12 and 23 some good wood and a few logs. Plenty of meadow hay and pasturage. Very few stones. All the lands suitable for mixed farming.

TP. (Fractional) 24, RGE. 33.—A fractional township, two miles wide. Undulating and dotted over with clumps of scrub. Soil is good, black, sandy mould six to twenty inches deep, on clay subsoil. Numerous ponds, marshes and meadows all over and some ponds quite large. Abundance of hay in meadows and good upland grazing. Sections 1 and 35 are the best in the township.

TP. (Fractional) 25, RGE. 33.—The land in this township is of an excellent quality, and although broken by swamps and marshes is well adapted for settlement or grazing purposes. With the exception of a few bluffs of poplar this township is devoid of timber but an abundant supply can be had from the townships to the west. The water in the south part is slightly alkaline. The country is undulating and mostly overgrown with willows and scrub.

TP. (Fractional) 26, RGE. 33.—The land in this township is undulating and of good quality but is much broken by swamps and marshes. There are a few bluffs of green poplar, and the country is mostly overgrown with willows and scrub, with groves of dry poplar.

## YORKTON AGENCY.

This Agency runs from townships 22 to 30, ranges 1 to 6 west of 2nd initial meridian. The M. & N. W. Railway is projected to run through this district. It contains five post offices, and is being rapidly settled up. This district is well watered by the White Sand River, and tributaries, and Leach, Crescent, and Devil's Lakes. It is well wooded and the soil is of excellent quality. The Commercial colony is situated in townships 23 and 24, range 1, principally Scotchmen. The rest of the district is fairly settled by the York Farmers and Crescent Lake colonies.

YORKTON.—This village is situated on the White Sand River, section 13, township 26, range 4, and contains a grist mill, store, hotel, etc.

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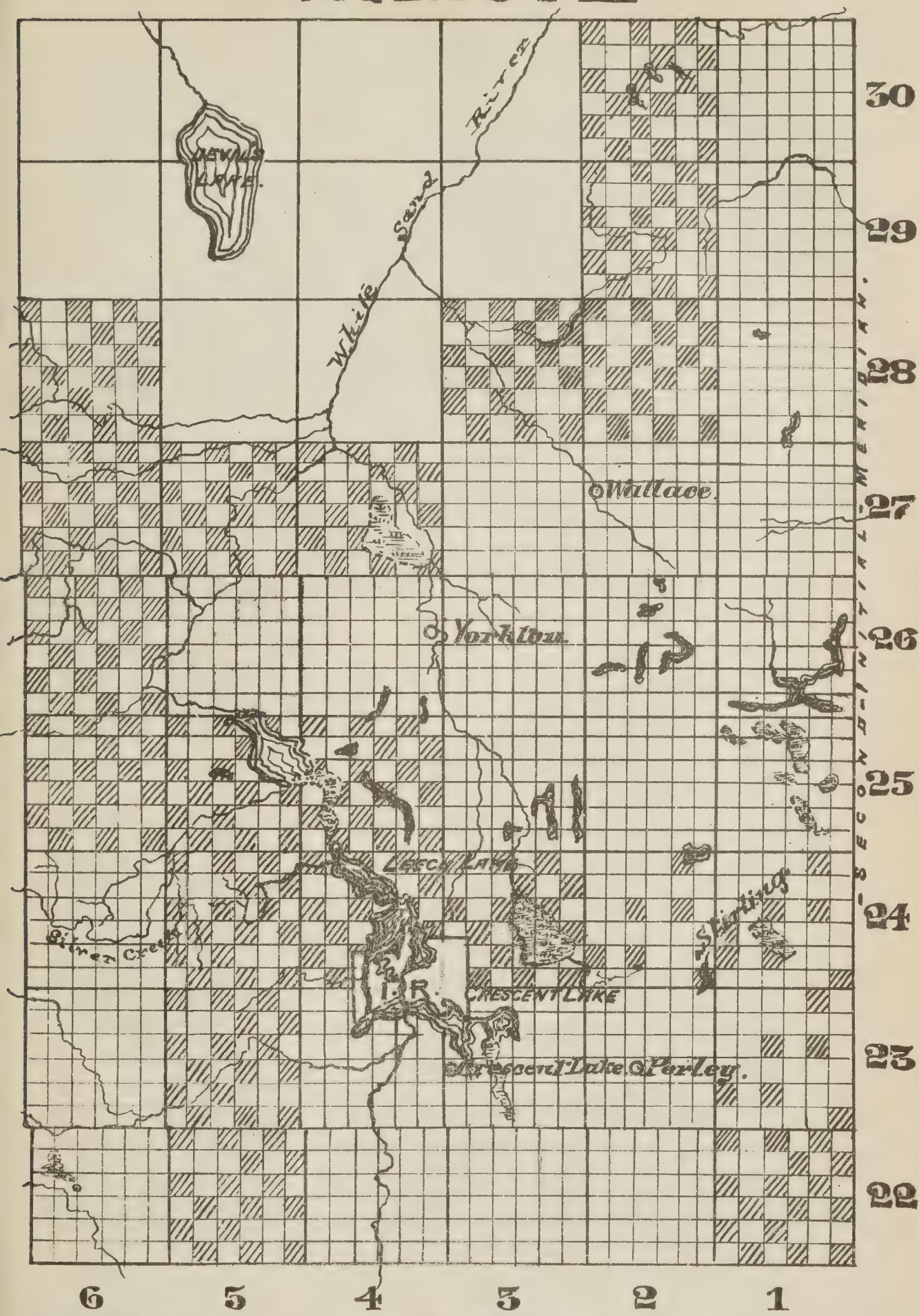
TP. 22, RGE. 1.—The Big Cut Arm Creek, a nice stream of good spring water, flows in a south-easterly direction across this township through a broad valley, 30 to 40 feet deep, with nearly impassible muskeg on each side of it and extending to places nearly to top of bank; on either side of creek land is level with good grass, and dotted over with poplar groves and clumps of scrub. Soil is a sandy and gravelly loam, 5 to 20 inches deep on a subsoil of very light sandy clay and in places sand. A great drawback to the usefulness of much of the land is the large number of boulders imbedded in surface. Along the creek is a narrow belt of balm of Gilead, and on the south bank considerable rail timber and fuel; all but the central sections in township are well supplied with rails and fuel.

TP. 23, RGE. 1.—This township is comparatively unbroken by sloughs, &c. There are a few ponds and marshes containing good water, and on section 33 there is a small and rather pretty lake, also containing good water; the surface is gently rolling to undulating, and level with some ridges and knolls. There are numerous bluffs of poplar scattered over nearly all parts of the township, affording shelter and a good supply of fuel and fencing for the use of settlers.



# YORKTON.

— AGENCY —



**M&N-W-R** Lands for Sale. 
 
**Post Offices.**

**School Houses.**





Soil is generally a sandy loam on a subsoil varying from clay to sandy clay and sand with a little gravel in some places. The growth of grass is usually good, and around bluffs, &c., is mixed with pea vine; on the east side there are some large tracts of good meadow excellent for stock. There are some imbedded boulders here and there. The township generally is well adapted to farming purposes, has the advantage of plenty of wood and has more than ordinary pleasing appearance.

TP. 24, RGE 1.—A pretty township, especially on south west part. Is undulating with here and there small knolls and ridges, and has general slope to south. Soil is a good black sandy mould 6 to 20 inches deep on subsoil of clay and sandy clay; at south west part soil becomes lighter and subsoil sand and gravel. North east part is open, the rest has scattered scrub and on south and west has some nice groves of rail timber. Hay and pasturage plentiful; nice lakes on section 7, 9, 19 and 31, all well suited for farming. Several good homestead locations.

TP. 25, RGE 1.—Is principally level land in the northern part, in the south part the land falls principally north and west. In the south and west there is considerable water. Soil in the greater part clay loam on clay subsoil, occasionally limestone gravel intermixed. In the western part there are a few small bluffs of polar, part of which is living and part dry, damaged by fire, fit for fuel and fencing purposes. Water good. In all the soil is rich and township is well suited for settlement. A great part covered with scrub.

TP. 26, RGE. 1.—The land is level, a great deal of water in the south and eastern parts. In the north and west parts the land falls mostly north west. Soil mostly rich clay and black loam clay subsoil with limestone gravel mixed occasionally. In places an outcrop of boulders, coarse quartz and granite. In the northern part a few small bluffs of green poplar fit for fuel and fencing. Some small running streams, good water. This land is well situated for settlement. Great part covered with scrub.

TP. 27, RGE. 1.—The soil throughout this township is a rich black sandy loam varying in depth from 9 inches to 2 feet. The land north

of Stony Creek is of a marshy nature, there being a great number of small lakes and marshes interspered all over the land, and around and among these lakes and marshes are islands and belts of poplar woods. Settlers will find no difficulty in procuring all the wood and water they will require for a great many years to come. The land to the south of Stony Creek is not so well timbered or watered, and adjoining the creek the land is considerably broken by ravines; and towards the correction line the land is a beautiful level prairie. No rocks of any kind show above the ground, except on the banks of Stony Creek, where there is a fine outcrop of limestone. The water all through this township is good and sweet.

TP. 28, RGE. 1.—The land is of a very wet nature, being principally lakes and marshes with poplar wood around the lakes. The soil is a rich, black, sandy loam, but on account of the numerous lakes and marshes the sections cannot be classed higher than second and third class. The land is valuable as wood lots, there being a great quantity of poplar suitable for building, fencing and fuel.

TP. 29, RGE. 1.—The surface of the land is gently undulating, and almost covered with a growth of poplar bushes, willows and poplar trees. The average depth of the alluvial soil is about 12 inches, with a clay subsoil of a yellowish color. The water found in the creeks is good and abundant. The poplar trees in the belts and islands are suitable for building purposes, fencing and fuel.

TP. 30, RGE. 1.—The surface of this township is gently undulating or rolling, and overgrown with poplar and willow bushes and occasional belts of poplar woods. The soil is a dark sandy loam of an average depth of 12 inches, with a yellowish sandy clay subsoil. The eastern part of the township is for the greater part covered by numerous marshes and ponds. The sections in the north end are broken by ravines and the White Sand River valley. Sheep Creek runs through part of the south end. The trail to Pelly crosses the township.

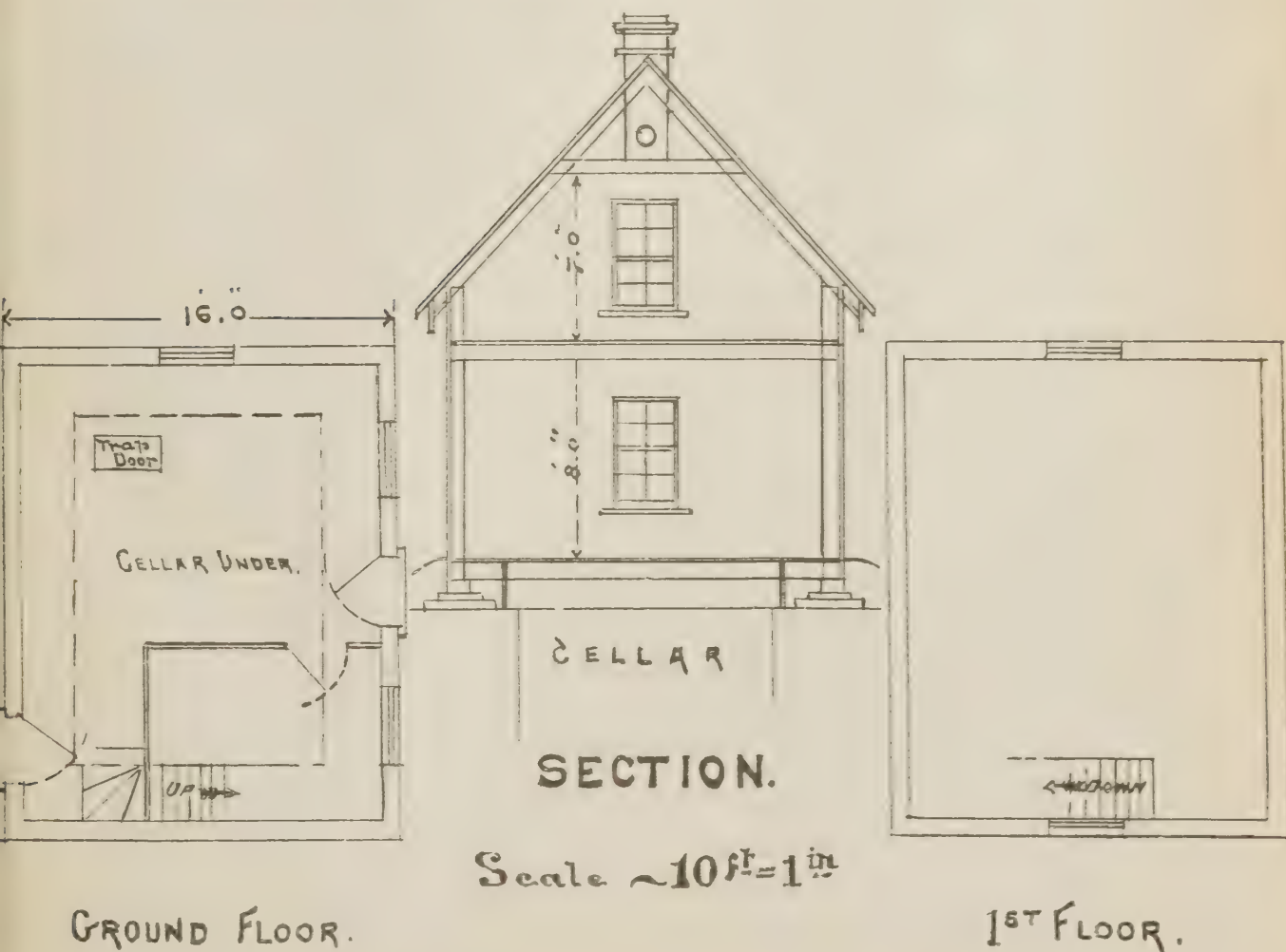
#### RANGE 2, WEST OF SECOND MERIDIAN.

TP. 22, RGE. 2.—This township is the most part covered with poplar, the largest about ten inches diameter. There are a great number of small lakes or marshes over the whole of this township.





No. 2.—COST about \$300 (£60).—This House, 20 x 16 ft., is divided into two rooms downstairs, and can also be divided into two rooms upstairs; cellar underneath, with trap door in kitchen floor.





TP. 23, RGE. 2.—This township consists of prairie land of very good quality, with quite a number of marshes. The south-eastern part has considerable bush. The land is to a great extent first class and well fitted for settlement. The soil is slightly gravelly but not to injure its fertility; in fact it is well fitted for agricultural purposes. Perley P.O. is on section sixteen.

TP. 24, RGE. 2.—This township is principally rolling prairie and well watered, having two lakes, one situated at the north-east upon sections thirty-five and thirty-six, and the other at the south-east upon sections one and twelve. The waters of these lakes are good and abound in fish. There are also several ponds throughout the township, the waters of which are generally of an alkaline nature. There is but one creek of any size, that which crosses in a south-westerly direction sections four, five and six. The east quarter of the township is of light sandy loam, and the remainder of good heavy clay loam. The whole of the land is well suited for farming purposes, being easily drainable. The timber in this township is confined to the east side, and to sections thirty-three, thirty-four, thirty-five and thirty-six on the north. It is generally of small size, in most cases only suitable for fencing and fuel. On sections thirty-five and thirty-six, however, some timber is fitted for building purposes.

TP. 25, RGE. 2.—In the eastern part clay loam, clay subsoil, with limestone, gravel, covered with scrub willow, land falling principally north-west. In the western part good deal sandy loam, sandy subsoil, also a few limestone gravel ridges; land fair, falling south-east. Water good, except part of a lake in sections 1 and 2, which is very bitter. A great deal of timber in eastern and western parts, green and dry poplar fit for building, fuel, and fencing purposes, in places injured by fire. This township is also well suited for settlement.

TP. 26, RGE. 2.—There is considerable water in this township. The soil is extra good, principally black clay loam, clay subsoil; in places sandy loam, sandy subsoil. A few small running creeks in the northern part, good water. There is occasionally a mixture of limestone gravel. Some bluffs of poplar, the greater part dry and injured by fire, fit for fuel and fencing purposes. Some boulders, coarse quartz



and granite. Land falling principally west and north-west. This township is well suited for settlement. A great portion covered with scrub.

TP. 27, RGE. 2.—Soil throughout this township is a rich black sandy loam of a depth varying from 9 inches to 2 feet, lying upon a gravelly subsoil. The surface of the country is gently undulating or low rolling prairie, interspersed with islands and belts of poplar woods. The trees in the bluffs are about from 4 to 8 inches in diameter. No rocks of any kind show on the surface. There is a fine creek of fresh water, which flows across the township from section number 2 to section 30. The water throughout the township in lakes and creeks is good and sweet. Altogether it is a first-class township for agricultural purposes. Wallace post office is on section 19.

TP. 28, RGE. 2.—Rolling prairie, with numerous lakes and marshes and poplar bluffs. The soil is a rich black loam, from 9 inches to 2 feet in depth. Gravelly subsoil. The water in the lakes is good and sweet, and it is a good township for settlement.

TP. 29, RGE. 2.—The surface of this township is gently undulating and overgrown in places with small poplar and brushwood. The soil is a sandy loam, of an average depth of 12 inches, with a reddish clay subsoil. The trail from Qu'Appelle to Pelly runs across the township in a north-easterly direction.

TP. 30, RGE. 2.—Surface gently undulating, with a soil of an average depth of 12 inches, with a dark yellowish clay subsoil. The northern half of the township is, to a considerable extent, overgrown with poplar, generally of small growth, and contains numerous ponds and marshes, with a few lakes. The south-east quarter is not so thickly overgrown as the north half, and the south-west quarter still less so. Timber can be had for building purposes, and for fencing and fuel.

### RANGE 3, WEST OF SECOND MERIDIAN.

TP. 22, RGE. 3.—The soil is of a good quality, being a rich clay loam. There are no running streams but numerous marshes and small ponds.

TP. 23, RGE. 3.—The greater part of this township is covered with willows and poplar, the latter varying from 1 inch to 12 inches in diameter. There is sufficient timber to supply the settlers with fuel and fencing and building timber for many years to come. The soil is excellent, being a black loam, and in some places a dark sandy loam resting on a subsoil of whitish clay. There is a superabundant supply of water of comparatively good quality, and there is also a large quantity of good hay land, but the surface of the land is very much broken by large marshes. Crescent Lake P.O. is on section eighteen.

TP. 24, RGE. 3.—This township is mostly rolling prairie, but contains several muskegs, two of which are of large size, and are situated respectively in sections eleven, twelve, thirteen, fourteen fifteen twenty-three and twenty-four, and in sections five, six, seven eight, seventeen, eighteen and nineteen. Through the former a swift creek, varying in width from half a chain to 2 chains, runs in a northerly direction and empties into the Little White Sand River. The water of this creek is of good quality, varies in depth from 2 to 6 feet and has a gravel bottom. Its slight improvement by straightening and deepening at certain points would suffice to drain the muskeg through which it runs. The other muskeg partakes of the nature of drowned land, as the sections on which it is situated are very level, and are overflowed every spring by the waters of the Little White Sand river, which runs northward through the northern tier of sections of this township. The water of this river is very good in quality and abounds in fish. The current is strong, running at the rate of six miles an hour. It is of an average width of two chains and has a mud bottom. The rest of the land in this township consists of good sandy loam. Timber is only found upon the west side of section eighteen and on sections nineteen, thirty and thirty-one, that upon eighteen being fit only for fuel, that on nineteen consisting of a growth of thick young poplar and willow, which has followed the destruction by fire of the large timber; and that on thirty and thirty-one being poplar fit for fencing and fuel.

TP. 25, RGE. 3.—In this township the soil is in the greater part sandy loam, with sandy subsoil, in places black clay loam, clay subsoil. Considerable water in the south and east parts; a large stream a tributary

of the White Sand River, flows north-westerly through the west part of the township; the water in general is good. There are also other small creeks with good water. Some dry and green poplar fit for fuel and fencing purposes. Not much scrub. Land in north part rolling, the south part level. Well suited for settlement. Armstrong's Lake P.O. is on section 12.

TP. 26, RGE. 3.—This is all rolling prairie, not much marsh or water except numerous small running creeks with good water. Soil black clay and sandy loam, clay and sand for subsoil. A good deal of limestone gravel. All prairie, soil very rich and suited for agriculture.

TP. 27, RGE. 3.—The greater portion of this township is level prairie, slightly undulating in the southerly part. There are a great many marshes with water one to four feet deep, and grown up with rank grass. There is a good creek running through the southerly part and another through the north-east part of the township. The water in the creeks and marshes is good. The soil is a dark rich clay loam about two feet deep with a clay subsoil, well suited for the growth of grain. The only timber of any value are some poplar groves on the eastern side. There is a great deal of scrub brush and thick willows in the east and north-east part of the township.

TP. 28, RGE. 3.—The greater portion of the land in this township is broken by short, low, irregular ridges of a light, sandy soil and by numerous grass marshes and swamps. The township is thus less adapted for grain growing than for stock farming, the low land being well watered by streams, ponds and marshes. Would furnish abundance of hay and pasturage. Two streams pass through this township. One, averaging about fifty feet wide, enters the township on the south boundary of section 2, and crossing in a north-west direction, leaves it again on the north boundary of section 31, passing through sections 2, 3, 10, 9, 16, 21, 20, 29, 30, 32 and 31. The other stream enters the township at the north-east angle as a marshy stream two feet to three feet deep, and with scarcely any perceptible current, and passes in this form through sections 36, 25, 23 and 26 to near the line between sections 26 and 27, where it is crossed by the cart trail from Fort Pelly to Qu'Appelle, near which point it changes into a rapid



streamlet averaging about fifteen feet wide and one and a half feet deep, and passing through sections 28, 29, 27 and 32, joins the aforementioned stream in section 29. The water in both these streams, and throughout the township generally, is sweet and good. The soil on the high lands is light and sandy, with the exception of a small area near the centre of the township, which is of very fair quality, being a black loam. The swamps and marsh lands would require draining before they could be cultivated to advantage. About one-third of the surface of the land is swamp and marsh, one-third covered with poplar woods, willow and hazel, suitable for building purposes, fencing and fuel, but not large enough for saw milling, and the remainder rolling prairie, scrub and brush.

TP. 29, RGE. 3.—Not subdivided.

TP. 30, RGE. 3.—Not subdivided.

#### RANGE 4, WEST OF SECOND MERIDIAN.

TP. 22, RGE. 4.—About two-thirds of this township is rolling prairie. It is watered by a stream running north through the centre. The soil is a light, sandy loam.

TP. 23, RGE. 4.—There is sufficient timber in this township for purposes of settlement, but it is not large enough to be manufactured into sawed lumber. Poplar is the only kind to be met with. Section 34 contains the largest timber in the township; sections 31 and 32 are nearly destitute of timber. The soil in this township is very fertile. All the timber growing in this township will be required for local purposes.

TP. 24, RGE. 4.—Leech Lake, a body of water about thirteen square miles in area, is situated almost entirely within the township. Its waters are good and full of fish. The north-easterly and south shores of this lake are comparatively high, ranging from two to six feet above high water level, while the westerly and south-easterly shores are low, the adjoining lands being flooded at the season of high water. A creek of fifty feet in width crosses sections 31 and 32, and one of eight feet runs through sections 6, 5 and 4, both emptying into the

west side of the lake. The land, with exception of portions bordering the westerly and south-easterly shores of the lake, is of a rolling character and consists generally of good clay loam, well fitted for farming. The greater part of the timber in this township is found to the east and north-east of Leech Lake, with small patches on sections 6, 7, 18 and 19, and smaller clumps scattered throughout the remaining sections. That to the north-east, viz., on sections 23, 25, 26, 33, 34, 35 and 36, is heavy poplar, generally suitable for building and fence timber. On the west portions of sections 6 and 7 a young growth of poplar is found, fit only for fuel, while on sections 7, 8, and 19, and elsewhere as above noted, poplar suitable for fencing and fuel is met with.

TP. 25, RGE. 4.—The soil is rich clay and sandy loam, clay and sand for subsoil. In parts undulating, and in other parts level. There is a great deal of water in this township, which is very good. The timber is composed of large dry and green poplar, part injured by fire, averaging from 16 to 18 inches in diameter. Along the south-east shore of the lake, which lies nearly in the centre of the township, there is splendid green poplar and balm of Gilead timber, which is fit for lumbering, building, fuel and fencing purposes. This township is well adapted for settlement.

TP. 26, RGE. 4.—The soil is rich clay and sandy loam, clay and sand for subsoil. Tributary of the White Sand River flows through the eastern part of this township; in places there is some large green poplar on its banks; its current is very swift. There are also some swamps with good water. The timber is principally in sections 3, 8, 19, 30 and 32, which averages from 18 to 20 inches in diameter, some dry and injured by fire, but the greater part green poplar and balm of Gilead, and is fit for lumbering, fuel and fencing purposes. The land is in parts undulating, and in other parts level. This township is in every way well adapted for settlement. Yorkton post office is on section 13.

TP. 27, RGE. 4.—Level prairie. The soil is a sandy loam, of fair quality. The White Sand River runs through the township in a northerly direction; numerous marshes; a good deal of thick willow and

scrub. The trail from Qu'Appelle to Fort Pelly runs diagonally through from south-east to north-west.

TP. 28, RGE. 4.—Not subdivided.

TP. 29, RGE. 4.—Not subdivided.

TP. 30, RGE. 4.—Not subdivided.

#### RANGE 5, WEST OF SECOND MERIDIAN.

TP. 22, RGE. 5.—Undulating prairie, without any running stream. Soil is a sandy loam.

TP. 23, RGE. 5.—The north-west quarter is nearly destitute of timber. The remainder is thickly dotted over with groves of poplar and willow, affording a plentiful supply of fuel; but the poplar is scarcely large enough for building purposes. A limited supply can, however be found for small buildings. There is good hay land and also a plentiful supply of water. Soil, from 5 to 8 inches deep, with a sandy loam subsoil.

TP. 24, RGE. 5.—This township is composed of rolling and comparatively dry land, the soil consisting principally of sandy loam well suited for farming. But few ponds of any size are found. Two creeks, each about an average width of one chain, one running northward through the westerly tier of sections, and the other eastward from the centre of the north half of the township to the eastern boundary. Slight improvements to these creeks would suffice to drain the township effectually. Upon sections 1, 2, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 23, 24, 25, 26, 29 and 36 timber suitable for building is found. That in sections 7, 9, 16, 17, 18, 20, 21 and elsewhere is only fit for fencing and fuel.

TP. 25, RGE. 5.—Rolling prairie, with two small islands of wood. It contains part of a large lake, besides a large quantity of other lakes and marshes. Soil fairly good.

TP. 26, RGE. 5.—Rolling prairie, with bluffs of poplar, willows and scrub, broken by numerous marshes. Three or four creeks run through the township. The soil throughout is rich, sandy loam.



TP. 27, RGE. 5.—Level prairie, with good soil. Thickly dotted with clumps of timber and broken by marshes. Abundance of good water and hay.

TP. 28, RGE. 5.—Not subdivided.

TP. 29, RGE. 5.—Not subdivided. Devil's Lake is partly in this township.

TP. 30, RGE. 5.—Not subdivided. Devil's Lake is partly in this township.

#### RANGE 6, WEST OF SECOND MERIDIAN.

TP. 22, RGE. 6.—This township is wholly prairie. Soil light and gravelly, watered by several small streams, which in ordinary seasons would be dry.

TP. 23, RGE. 6.—This township is rolling prairie, with occasional clumps of poplar. The soil is rich in many places but is a gravelly loam on the summits of the small hills. There is only fuel sufficient to supply a limited number of settlers for a season or two. Timber for building purposes could be procured at the Beaver Hills. There is a plentiful supply of good water.

TP. 24, RGE. 6.—This township is mostly rolling land, intersected throughout by creeks of fair size, by which the required drainage is effected. The soil is a light, sandy loam of fair quality, and well adapted for farming. This township is fairly well wooded, building timber being found in the northern portions of sections 7, 8, 9 and 10, and the southern portions of sections 15, 16, 17 and 18, and also upon sections 22, 23, 26, 27, 28, 29, 32, 33 and 34, while upon sections 1, 2, 9, 11, 12 and 19, and elsewhere, timber fit for fencing and fuel is to be had.

TP. 25, RGE. 6.—Rolling prairie, with the exception of two or three small islands of wood. The land is pretty good. The township is traversed obliquely by the Fort Pelly trail.

TP. 26, RGE. 6.—Rolling prairie, with bluffs of poplar, willow and scrub. There are two or three creeks containing good water, and several marshes. The soil is sandy loam.

TP. 27, RGE. 6.—Level prairie, dotted with poplar bluffs and broken by marshes. A branch of the White Sand River flows through the southerly portion of the township. The soil is sandy loam and well adapted for tillage. Sufficient timber for the requirements of settlers.

TP. 28, RGE. 6.—This township is broken by the north branch of the White Sand River, which enters it on the west limit of section 31, and crossing it in a south-easterly direction leaves it again on the east boundary of section 1, passing through sections 30, 19, 20, 17, 8, 9, 10, 3, 11, 2 and 1. The valley through which it runs is about half a mile wide. The river is from forty-five feet to two chains in width, the depth of the water varying from two feet to ten feet, and the height of the banks from fifty feet to eighty feet. Another small stream crosses sections 7 and 8, with banks similar to those of the White Sand River. The surface of the township not broken by the White Sand River and the stream last mentioned is gently rolling land covered to a great extent with thick willows, brush, scrub and bluffs of poplar and balm of Gilead, and a few grass marshes. The soil is light and sandy, especially along the banks of the river, which are little more than sand-banks covered with a thin layer of vegetable mould. The timber is small. The township could be used to some advantage for grazing purposes.

TP. 29, RGE. 6.—Not subdivided.

TP. 30, RGE. 6.—Not subdivided.

## EXTRACTS.

(*Eng. Times, 1886.*)

The fertile and attractive Province of Manitoba, over which we have been going, extends westwards from Winnipeg about 188 miles by an air line to the boundary of the Northwest Territory. . . . But probably the best exhibition that can be given of the restless spirit of enterprise that animates the pioneers on the Canadian frontier and the capitalists, both in this country and in England, who furnish the means for carrying out the vast plans of colonization and settlement that are entertained for the new country is shown in the construction of the railway that is going through Northwestern Manitoba. We resume our journey westward from Winnipeg upon the Canadian Pacific route over the level prairie northward of the Assiniboine River. It is a monotonous, treeless expanse whereon large cattle herds are roaming, patches of the grass having been burnt over, and after traversing 56 miles we come to the village of Portage la Prairie, having about 2,000 inhabitants. . . . The country for a long distance around Portage la Prairie is a section of good farming and long settlement, the old trails through here having brought inhabitants long before the railway was thought of. The threshing is going on in all directions, there are large cattle herds and every evidence of agricultural thrift. The farmers live in good buildings and have extensive shelters with straw-thatched roofs for their animals, this not being found to any extent in Southern Manitoba. The whole country seems to be under cultivation, the fields being fenced and rotation of crops practised, wheat, oats and root crops varying with grass. The lands are quoted from £2 to £4 per acre. . . . There are wheat elevators for the reception of the crop and storage until shipment, and a flour mill, the people having learnt the economy of making their own flour out of their own wheat. A brewery also flourishes at Portage la Prairie, which is said to have more orders for beer than it can fill, showing, as they told me, the advanced civilization of the people. . . .

The "Manitoba and North-Western Railway" has been laid out north-westwardly from Portage la Prairie towards Prince Albert, following in general the route of the old cart trail leading to Edmonton and Prince Albert on the Saskatchewan River, and already the construction has proceeded to the western boundary of Manitoba. This company was originally started by the late Sir Hugh Allan, of Montreal, and his family and relatives are now its chief promoters. At the close of the present season the expectation is that 180 miles will be completed, including the difficult crossing of the Assiniboine River, at the western boundary of Manitoba, and its confluent streams, and to-day 159 miles of the route are actually completed and in running order, with the grading about finished to the termination of the new line contemplated for this season. The intention is to continue building the railway until Prince Albert is reached. The Dominion Government encourage this enterprise with a subsidy of 6,400 acres of land for each mile completed. . . . To examine the method of opening the new country I went on this line out to the end of the track. The route begins at Portage la Prairie and is laid upon the level prairie south of Lake Manitoba, following up the valley of a stream of exceeding perversity and crookedness



which is an affluent of that lake and is known by the not very taking title of the White Mud River. The channel of this stream is being dredged up to the railway so that navigation may be carried on connecting the railway with the lake and its extensive system of interior waters, this improvement being a Government enterprise. The first station of importance on this new railway is named Gladstone, standing on the White Mud River some 1,400 miles from Montreal. It is a village of about 70 houses, and has a weekly newspaper, it is said of decided Tory proclivities—the *Gladstone Age*. The original name of this nearly new town was Palestine, but the popular feeling was so strongly shown against this cognomen that Gladstone was substituted. It has a fine station and refreshment room, a big water tank, and the most vigorous windmill on the line was engaged in doing the pumping as we passed along. It will probably be gratifying to Mr. Gladstone to know that one Manitoba wheat field at his town has this year produced a crop averaging 55 bushels to the acre. The general average of this region, however, is about 25 bushels this season, though the grain is unusually heavy, weighing 62 to 65 lbs. per bushel.

The route beyond Gladstone passes into a wooded region, and goes through the County of Beautiful Plains. There is upon the surface of the country a most unusual formation. A broad, level, grass-covered plain stretches northward as far as the eye can see, bordered upon either hand by timber, one side being poplar and the other side chiefly oak. The rows of timber are about 2,000 feet apart, and this stretches northward, it is said, for 40 miles. It looks like a broad race-course cut out of a low forest, and was formerly a favorite resort of the buffalo. The land is poor and the soil chiefly gravel. The railway traverses this plain for about three miles and then by a bend leaves it, suddenly going into an entirely different region of rolling, wooded prairie, developing far to the northward into the heavily timbered ridges of the Riding Mountains, which loom up at the horizon. This is a fine country, with rich soil, and one of the finest wheat-growing sections of Manitoba. The settlements are frequent and we come to the little station of Neepawa, which in the figurative language of the Cree Indian signifies "abundance." This is a small village set on the side of a hill, crowned by the most pretentious building of all, which we are told is the court house. At almost all the stations there are tall grain elevators ready to receive the wheat crop of the country, each elevator bearing the name of its owner in huge letters that can be seen for at least a mile across the prairie. Ogilvie, the enterprising miller of Montreal and several other towns, has the most of these elevators thus dropped among the Manitoba wheat fields. The railway ascends heavy grades towards the more remote but higher table lands of the Northwest, and approaches the Little Saskatchewan River. The town of Minnedosa was located in this region before the railway came along, the fact that the Northwestern trail crossed the river ford at this place gathering two or three cabins. The railway came through in 1883, and the little settlement has expanded to a town of a thousand people, which is steadily growing. These far north-western rivers pass through the prairie in deep gorges, and it has taken skilful engineering to make this crossing. The railway builders search the country adjacent to the rivers for a long coulee. This is the scoured out valley of an extinct tributary stream, and by availing itself of the notch thus cut into the side of the gorge, which sometimes extends for miles away from the stream, the railway route is successfully carried over. The Little Saskatchewan River is a narrow and winding stream subject to heavy freshets, and it brings down a vast number of logs to give occupation to the Minnedosa saw mills. The town is set in a basin, surrounded by an amphitheatre of hills, and as the railway rises again on the other side a grand view is given

over the river valley and the town below. The railway climbs up the grade to an elevation of about 1,900 feet above the sea to get upon the higher tableland beyond, the route being carved out of the hillside composed of much gravel and boulders.

There are little lakes upon this elevated prairie, and wild birds abound, for the sportsman has not yet done much in this remote region to disturb them. The shooting is very good—ducks, geese, plover, grouse, prairie chickens, snipe and other birds being abundant. There is considerable settlement here, mainly by emigrants from Ontario province, with some Germans and Scandinavians, and the omnipresent Scotch, who are the most persistent developers of the new country. We reach Shoal Lake. . . . This is a beautiful sheet of water about six miles long, where a hotel is to be built to make the great summer resort of the far Northwest. A site has been selected in a pleasant grove near the shore. This lake is elevated about 1,700 feet, and the railway, which came along last year, has made near by a representative village of some 100 people, just ten months old.

. . . . This new little town and its dependent region expect to give the railway 100,000 bushels of wheat to export this season, and the managers say the whole section the railway serves will produce about 1,000,000 bushels from the very good crop just harvested. Thus we run out along this railway, and finally get upon the new track which has just been laid and is still unballasted. Moving carefully down another coulee, we cross the valley of Bird Tail Creek, an affluent of the Assiniboine, and beyond this go up to the top of the hill again to the station for the village of Birtle, which has 500 people living down in the valley along the creek. Here is one of the Dominion emigration offices, and shelter sheds for the arriving settler who has no place for temporary refuge. Next there comes difficult engineering to carry the line across the Assiniboine and two or three streams that flow into it. Broad, airy, and rather startling trestle bridges carry it over deep valleys, and these difficulties of construction, unusual in a prairie country, make it a costly line to build. The engineers take the road over the Silver Creek, a deep valley, by a ponderous and lofty trestle bridge, and as they are then at an elevation of nearly 500 feet above the Assiniboine River, they seek a long coulee to carry the line down. . . .

We turn back and drive up to the tops of the hills, seeking the famous farm of Bin-scarth. On the way, lakes are passed with sedgy edges, and we stop for a little shooting. They teem with wild ducks and several are bagged, also a prairie chicken or two. Everyone in this country takes his gun when he goes about, and thus varies the time with a little sport. Reaching the farm, which belongs to the Scottish, Ontario and Manitoba Land Company, an elaborate establishment is found, with large herds of valuable cattle, sheep and pigs, and about 4,000 acres under cultivation or used for cattle ranges. The wheat crop just harvested averages 40 bushels to the acre. The thoroughbreds have taken frequent prizes, and, in fact, are the most valuable herd in the Northwest, there being 260 of them, mostly pure Durhams. This establishment has all been made in the past four years, the company owning 30,000 acres of land, and having invested in land and buildings \$135,000. They have complete buildings for the farm, and are making a great impression upon the neighboring country by their success as cattle-breeders. The colony at the farm are Ontario people and Scotch. There is to be established here next season one of Dr. Barnardo's Homes for Destitute Children, 200 boys being sent out from London to learn farm work. This enterprise is promised \$1,000 bonus by the Local Government and 2,000 acres of land, and will do much good, it is thought, by providing farm labor where it is greatly needed. All these results have been accomplished by stretching out the railway into this



attractive and fertile region, where pretty much all the lands are already taken up. In fact, the frontier has been removed far beyond, by the anticipation of more railway building. The location of the route into the Northwest Territory has caused settlers to flock thither, and thus when the Manitoba and North-Western Railway has been pushed to completion to its present intended terminus at Prince Albert, on the North Saskatchewan River, nearly 500 miles from Winnipeg, it is probable that the onward march of settlement may then tempt its enterprising builders still further to extend the line, until it reaches the hyperborean regions up by the Arctic circle.

(*Pall Mall Gazette.*)

After visiting Southern Manitoba and driving across the prairie back to the main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway to the central part of the Province, Northern Manitoba remained to be seen. Such a trip is rendered easy by the Manitoba & Northwestern Railway, which runs through the fertile belt north-westerly from Portage la Prairie, a point on the Canadian Pacific, 60 miles west of Winnipeg, for about 180 miles. Its present terminus is Langenburg, about 20 miles beyond the boundary line of Manitoba, in the Northwest Territories, but it is the intention of the promoters to carry it to Prince Albert, on the Saskatchewan river, 250 miles further up. It was constructed by local capitalists for a distance of 35 miles ; then the present company, in which Mr. Andrew Allan is the chief figure, bought it, rebuilt it, and extended it to its present limit about a year ago. . . .

The character of the country through which the road passes may be roughly described as rolling prairie, well wooded, with plenty of water. It is especially adapted for mixed farming, as besides having plenty of hay and water for the cattle, the patches of timber and the Riding Mountains to the north give a natural protection in winter, while according to the report published by department of Agriculture of the Province this year the yield of wheat per acre along this line was some two bushels per acre better than in any other part of the province. The Portage Plains in which the line starts and which it traverses for a dozen miles, are famous even in Manitoba for their fertility, They contain excellent hay lands and abundance of cover and water for cattle, while their wheat crops and incidentally the ease with which farming is done, may be judged from the fact that one man told me that he and his sons had harvested 13,000 bushels of wheat with only \$30 of hired labor; and another that he had himself reaped with one binder his whole crop of 10,000 bushels. The next place of note after these wheat plains is Gladstone, where the citizens requested me to send through you their Christmas greetings to the statesman after whom their little town is named, as I did by cable. At this point the country grows more rolling, and all the houses are cosily sheltered behind well wooded bluffs; indeed at Neepawa, the next place at which I stopped and which is the Cree word for "plenty," the inhabitants, well satisfied with their great success at mixed farming, spoke almost pityingly of the mere "wheat raiser" along the Southern railway. The prettiest place on the line is a little town with the pretty name of Minnedosa, meaning "rapid water," on the little Saskatchewan River. The valley here is a mile long by 300 yards wide and the road rises up to it by rapid steps. From all these towns we made little excursions by sleigh, north and south, into the Province. Beyond the general wellbeing and content of the inhabitants, however, there is nothing noteworthy to chronicle.



We visited at Shoal Lake, a bright little village sixteen months old. Shoal Lake two years ago consisted of one house ; this year it will ship 100,000 bushels of wheat. At Birtle, the next place where we stopped, the mayor waited upon us, and furnished us with glowing accounts of the prosperity of his municipality. I have with me in my note book a half dozen of the instances he gave me in which poor men had come out from Ontario or from the Old Home and were now owners of their land and abundantly provided with oxen and cows and implements and all the necessary comforts of life. Birtle has another industry, however, than wheat growing. The Bird Tail river brings down the lumber from the Riding Mountains, which its saw mill will cut this year to the amount of 4,000,000 feet. Birtle was feeling very happy when I passed because of the visit of General Wilkinson and his purchase of two and a half sections forming 1,500 acres of land there, after visiting many other parts of the Province and the American West. "He enjoyed himself fine," the mayor said, adding that the town wished to give him a public banquet in recognition of the compliment his choice made to the neighborhood, but the General declined the banquet until, as he said, he could do something to earn it.

The show place of the Manitoba & Northwest Railway is, however, the well known stock farm at Binscarth. I know nothing to speak of about stock, but if there had been doubt as to the quality and good looks of hundreds of beautiful, sleek cows and the half dozen enormous bulls which filled the long rows of stabling, it would have been dispelled by the sight of the colored prize cards from agricultural shows all over Canada, taken by animals from this farm and with which the stable doors are literally plastered. Besides stock, grain is also grown here and I cannot perhaps, do better than give an exact copy of the grain return of 1887, furnished me by Mr. G. S. Smellie, the manager. It shows exactly what is done at a place where grain is, after all, a secondary consideration. The table is no doubt, too technical for the gentle reader, who may be invited to skip it immediately, but to any one interested in farming it will tell more than a good many columns of description.

BINSCARTH STOCK FARM—GRAIN RETURN FOR SEASON OF 1887.

Kind of grain.	No. of acres.	State of cultivation.	No. of bushels.	Average yield.
Wheat—				
Red Fyfe	21 $\frac{1}{4}$	Summer fallow.	836	39 37-185
"	14	Second crop.	409	29 3-14
	35 $\frac{1}{4}$		1,247	35 53-141
Oats—				
Race Horse	18 $\frac{1}{4}$	Second crop.	1,238	66 2-75
White Main	14	Second crop.	661	47 3-14
Black	76	17 acres summer fallow	5,599	73 51-76
	108 $\frac{1}{4}$	29 acres 2nd crop & 30 3rd.	7,498	68-412-435
Barley	41 $\frac{1}{2}$	28 acres 2nd crop & 16 $\frac{1}{4}$ 3rd	1,647	37-1-89
	188 $\frac{1}{2}$		10,392	55-49-371

Average weight of grain per measured bushel.

Wheat.....	53 lbs.	Oats, of 1,238 bushels.....	48 lbs.
Oats, of 6,250 bushels.....	44 lbs.	Barley.....	54 lbs.

From Binscarth a short line runs due north to a little place called Russell, and half way between Russell and Harrowby, a corresponding station on the main line, is the site of Dr.

Barnardo's New Industrial Farm. After examining a good deal of the Province his agent pitched upon this spot, and so far as my own information goes it would have been difficult for him to have made a better choice. The philanthropic doctor is a long headed man of business; at any rate he has managed to get what looks like the large end of the bargain as regards his lands. He has secured altogether 7,520 acres, which is made up as follows:—A bonus from the Manitoba and Northwest Railway, 2,400 acres; a bonus from the Manitoba Government, 960 acres; school lands purchased, 640 acres; purchased from the Manitoba and North-western, 960 acres, and acquired from other parties, 2,560 acres. The large house he is erecting is to be completed at the end of March at a cost of £300. It is strongly and warmly built of wood, and when finished will be thoroughly comfortable and even an imposing structure. Dr. Barnado has undertaken to bring out eighty boys, whose coming is anticipated eagerly by the farmers of the district . . . . .

HENRY NORMAN.

(*Extracts "From Britain to British Columbia," by J. P. Sheldon, 1887.*)

#### THE MANITOBA AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILROAD.

On my return from the Pacific Coast, I went up the Manitoba and North-Western Railroad to its present western terminus at Langenburg, in Assiniboia, calling at various places, and driving about among the settlers. Its eastern terminus is at Portage la Prairie, from which place it runs, as its name indicates, in a north-westerly direction, and it taps a very extensive and favorable farming country. The station-houses along the line are uncommonly neat and trim. The Company have put up, at different points, warehouses for the convenience of farmers in storing grain. At other points the farmers are building warehouses of their own, and are leasing those built by the Company. Stockyards for the loading of cattle, etc., on the cars, are also provided at all the stations where they are needed. The country through which the line runs is, as a rule, well wooded, and water abounds in many places. Away to the north is a vast stretch of elevated country called the Riding Mountain, heavily timbered, and forming an excellent shelter to a very large area of farming land. The Company has a great quantity of land for sale, all the way along the line. These lands have been examined by competent men, and reports can be obtained from Mr. A. F. Eden, of Winnipeg, describing the soil and what there is upon it. Diagrams of each section, or square mile, 640 acres in extent, may also be obtained, and these show the form and location of every lake, pond, creek, and river, with probable depth of them, and also every swamp, marsh, meadow, bluff, hill or valley, timber, scrub and bare prairie. The price of these lands is regulated by location and quality of soil, and will run from \$2.50 upwards per acre. A purchaser may pay down the whole of the purchase money or he may pay one-sixth in cash, and the rest in five yearly instalments, with interest at the rate of six per cent. per annum. Special and favorable terms are allowed to actual settlers—on condition of residence, building and cultivation—enabling them to pay for the land out of the produce of the soil. The lakes abound with wild duck; there are also geese, prairie chickens (which are a species of grouse), partridges, snipe, plover, etc.; and in the forests, moose, elk, deer, and a variety of the smaller fur-bearing animals, while the lakes and rivers contain plenty of fish. So fast as the settlement of the country goes on and the population of a given district is sufficient for the purpose, municipalities are formed, in each of



which a reeve and council are annually elected to take charge of roads and other matters of a local nature. Towns and villages are springing up along the line, and settlers' houses are dotted all about the landscape. Still the country is sparsely inhabited at present, and there is room for thousands, and even millions, on either side of the road, as it is and is to be, a way to the North Saskatchewan River.

For a distance of upwards of 30 miles the line, on leaving Portage la Prairie, runs through a very fine wheat-producing country, a portion, of course, of the district I have spoken about already. The town of Gladstone, 35 miles up the road, is one that went ahead too fast during the "boom," and is now recovering from the effects of its impetuosity. It is a straggling town at present, but has a future in store. A few miles away to the north east is a hay marsh, extending to upwards of 50,000 acres, on which vast quantities of excellent winter forage may be cut, and thousands of cattle grazed in summer. At present, however, its vast gramineous capabilities are only utilized to a small extent. This locality ought to become great for cattle; it is already great for wheat. Mr. Burpee, whose farm lies between the town and the marsh, will market from 8,000 to 10,000 bushels of wheat of this year's crop; he has over 200 acres in wheat, 170 of which are in one undivided block. A steam thresher was at work in the field as we drove by, and I brought away a sample of the wheat. The town is prettily situated on the White Mud Creek, and is surrounded by belts of trees.

The smart little town of Neepawa is twenty-six miles farther up the track, and in the midst of a fine wheat-growing country. The name is of Indian origin, pretty enough, as so many Indian names of places are, and it signifies "a land of plenty;" the interpretation might also be reversed into "plenty of land," and each meaning be perfectly correct. It is sheltered by the Riding Mountain. The timber in the mountain is being carelessly and recklessly destroyed by forest fires, and this is lowering the water in the creeks during summer and autumn. Vigorous steps ought to be taken to prevent the recurrence of these forest fires, for the district is becoming destitute of surface water, and the trees will be wanted some day; very good water can, however, be obtained by digging wells of ten to twenty feet deep. I saw "a deal" in wheat at the station: A farmer drove in a waggon-load of sacks, direct from the thresher on the prairie, standing on the load. Pulling up at the crossing, the waggon was instantly boarded by three buyers, who proceeded to sample the grain. "How much have you got to send in?" said one of them. "A thousand bushels," was the reply. "I'll give fifty-two cents," said the first speaker. "Fifty-three," said another of the buyers. "Fifty-three and a half," said the first. "I'll give fifty-four," said the third. "Anybody give more?" said the farmer; and as there was no advance the last man got the thousand bushels. The load was then taken to the side of a railway car, weighed, and emptied out of the sacks, and away went the farmer for load number two. Before the line came along, these farmers had practically no market for their products, and could make no money; now they are doing well. We drove out some ten or a dozen miles, to a place called Eden, and lunched on bread-and-butter, with milk to drink, at one of the farm houses, during which our horses ate a feed of oats off the ground and quenched their thirst with water drawn from the well. This was on the 29th of September, a beautiful day, my thermometer registering 82 degrees in the shade; on the following day it stood 98 degrees in the sun. These hot days, late on in the season, combined with a very dry atmosphere, enable the farmers to thresh out their grain soon after it is cut, and the grain is hard and dry enough to store in bulk. The heat, though considerable, was not oppressive,



but rather agreeable, whereas in an English atmosphere at the same temperature one should have felt, to say the least, uncomfortable. The question turns on the degree of humidity in the air ; and, indeed, it is the dry air of the North West which renders tolerable and even pleasant the intense cold of winter ; a damp air conducts away the heat of one's body, while a dry air, acting as an insulator, enables one to retain it.

MINNEDOSA.—The town of Minnedosa, now incorporated, and having from 800 to 1,000 inhabitants, is very snugly situated on the Little Saskatchewan River, and sheltered by high hills well wooded. In location it is a reduced edition of Calgary, but with very different surroundings. It is equally well adapted for mixed husbandry or for grain-raising, and the country around offers inducements to settlers. It is the most important town north-west of Portage, from which it is seventy miles distant, and is the market for a large extent of country. Its relative importance will probably remain as a possession, for it has advantages which will cause it to go on prospering coincidently with the filling up of the country around. A small cheese factory is in operation ; and stock-breeding is an important industry around. We took a long drive, behind a fine span of greys which my friend Major Milburne drove with much delight, into what is known as the "Clanwilliam" country, calling at farms on the way. This district is one of excellent land, and farmers have every appearance of prosperity. Mr. Jackson of Rose Bank, a prosperous young bachelor, at whose call I was not surprised to find female help available during the busy time of harvest, is one of the most pushing farmers I saw in the whole North-West. His land is well farmed, and his crops are heavy and well harvested. He had 75 acres of wheat that he believed would average at least 40 bushels per acre ; 30 of oats, up to 65 bushels ; 20 of barley, up to 40 bushels ; while on land in second crop and without manure, he had a crop of grand potatoes, which he estimated at 400 bushels per acre. These potatoes—just put in roughly, never hoed, simply having the plough run down the rows a time or two, and "nothing done to coax them along," as Mr. Jackson expressed it—were smooth, clear-skinned, and of a size seldom seen in England. [From a report received since the foregoing was written, I gather that Mr. Jackson has finished his threshing, and that his wheat averaged  $45\frac{1}{2}$  bushels, oats 80 bushels, and barley 50 bushels per acre. From 130 acres he has 7,000 bushels of grain, or an average of 53 bushels all round.]

Mr. Frazer farms 1,200 acres, and had 60 head of well-bred shorthorns, some excellent horses, and a number of will-bred Berkshire pigs. At this place I saw two extraordinary roots of oats, grown accidentally in the garden ; each root was evidently from one grain, and the "tillering out" was the most extraordinary I have ever seen. The straw was fully five feet high, and strong as river reeds ; and in the two roots there were no fewer than 157 stalks, most of which were very heavily headed with grain. I saw a fine farm not far away, eight miles from the town—there was a large and good new house upon it, and some out-buildings that needed restoration—it was 320 acres in extent, and was on sale for \$1,850, or about £370. Now it seems to me that an old country farmer with, say, £600 or £700, and a growing family, would do uncommonly well on such a farm as this, with ordinary prudence and thrift, and with less toil than in England.

From an observant and intelligent friend, long settled in the country, I have received a letter from which I make the following quotation :—

"The early immigrants who settled on land in this country—the best land, remember—came chiefly from the counties of Bruce and Huron, in Ontario. These were considered

by the English immigrants coming in later as very rough people, and a social barrier, so to speak, sprang up between them. For the ultimate failure of many English settlers this isolation is responsible, since they refused to imitate their Canadian neighbors in the tilling of the soil, and in the treatment of stock, and particularly in the economical arrangement of the kitchen. Another class of farmer, more or less a failure here, may be designated the 'all-eggs-in-one-basket farmer,' trusting entirely to wheat-growing and ignoring stock of all kinds. This class of farming ran high from '78 to '85; it is now fast disappearing, and farmers are adopting the hundred-and-one chances of mixed farming. The present price of land is from \$4 to \$8 per acre. Land in this country is much of the same quality—very rich—the difference of value lying in improvements, location, and the presence of water and timber. Good water can be had anywhere for the digging, and in many districts running streams of pure spring water exist, particularly in the eastern riding of the county. At present this is the English settler's choice, and I am glad it is so. Large and small game and fish are here, and it cannot be excelled for stock. Settlers have the choice of two markets, Minnedosa and Neepawa."

In respect of cheese-making, Mr. A. Malcolm, of Minnedosa, writes as follows to the *Minnedosa Tribune*:—"Ours is a private dairy of 36 cows. From these we make about 90 lbs. of Cheese daily. The factory building is about 16 x 20; it contains two 130-gallon vats, four screw presses, curd sink, milk, &c. A spring of cold water runs through the factory and supplies the vats with plenty of pure cold water for cooling the milk; thus we have no trouble in keeping the milk perfectly sweet for 48 hours in the hottest weather. The curing room is a separate building, being about the same dimensions as the other. I commenced to make about the 1st of April. The product of April and May were sold at 12 cents per lb.; June, 10 cents.

SHOAL LAKE.—Near to a beautiful sheet of fresh water, and in the midst of excellent land, the pretty little town of Shoal Lake stands, 36 miles west of Minnedosa. This place promises to become a favorite resort, on account of boating, fishing, shooting, picturesque scenery, and an atmosphere as healthy as any in the world. On the lake shore, about half a-mile from the town, a two-year old cheese factory is located. Last year was a sort of preliminary gallop with it; yet the output was 35,000 lbs. of cheese, which averaged 10½ cents per lb. on the spot. This year it manipulates the milk of about 200 cows, a good many of which, owned by various farmers, are pastured in common, and on the common, so to speak—that is, on the prairie unfenced, though not untended—for a "herd law," now in force, requires live stock either to be fenced in or tended. These cows are herded, brought down to the factory night and morning, and milked by the factory hands. Other cows' milk is "collected" from distant farms by wagons owned at the factory; and yet other milk, from still more distant farms, is brought in once a day by the farmers—in some cases right away in the 'teens of miles. Milk out of condition is rejected, but this seldom occurs. Mr. J. G. Waldock runs the factory, and pays for the milk as follows, once a month, a month being kept in hand:—For that milked by his hands, 55 cents; for that "collected," 65 cents; and for that brought in by the owners, 80 cents per 100 lbs., which is about ten gallons. This is about 2½d., 3½d., and 4d. per gallon respectively, and, as will be seen, 1½d. per gallon pays for herding and milking, and ¾d. for "collecting" only, on which errand four light waggons are employed. The cows, generally speaking, are of an inferior breed, and yield an average of about two gallons per day each in the flush, or about a gallon and-a-half through the season. The milk is of good quality, which is often the case with



scrubby cows, but the quantity is little—it will average about 16 per cent. of cream, which is very satisfactory as to quality. As to its cheese-yielding quality, 3,656 lbs. of milk—one day's milk in September—produced 452 lbs. of cheese, weighed out of press. This cheese would probably lose ten per cent. of its weight in curing, leaving 407 lbs. of ripe cheese, or just about 1 lb. of ripe cheese from each 9 lbs of milk—a satisfactory yield. The cheeses I tested were clean flavored, close grained, of very good quality, and well made in all respects. They were being held for 13 cents a lb.; the previous parcel realized 11 cents. I took a warm interest in looking through this factory, because it illustrates a system capable of almost unlimited extension in Manitoba and the North-west, and I am glad to be able to award considerable commendation in this instance. Manitoba is already beginning to supply British Columbia with cheese and butter, and this points to the extension of cheese factories and creameries. A vast area of country in the Northwest—a good deal of which I saw in my journey—is, I believe, well adapted for dairy farming,—that is, for stock breeding and the production of cheese and butter of high quality. Cows can be bought in winter at \$30 to \$35 each—which, indeed, is quite equal to what they are worth in England at the present moment (November)—and can be wintered for \$6, *plus* attendance. Indeed, as it appears to me, dairy farming is a pursuit to which the energies of many North-West farmers may be profitably directed; and I ventured several years ago to make a public statement to this effect, at a meeting of the authorities in the city of Winnipeg.

The land in the Shoal Lake district is undulating and the soil strong and good, and as a rule there is plenty of water. I have seen in that locality a very fair crop of swedes and a really good one of potatoes, both of which were grown without manure and with absolutely no cultivation at all subsequent to the putting in of the seed, and with as little as possible before. The seed was put in, evidently very roughly, and the turnips were not even thinned or hoed, or anything; the potatoes were just as severely let alone. The fact is, nature does so much for the farmers that they consequently do little or nothing themselves beyond what they are obliged to do. This is true of some of the farmers in the Northwest, but not so of all. I do not “divide them all into one heap,” as Josh Billings would say. Indeed, I will say this: all of them work hard enough, *at times*, in seed time and harvest, for instance; and the women work hard, too, all the time—harder, I think, than the men. Here is a case:—J. Armerston and wife, living six miles south of Shoal Lake, this year cut and stooked 100 acres of grain! The wife drove the binder; the husband stooked the sheaves. The wife did the loading and stacking, the husband did the pitching on the cart and on the stack. These people are probably exceptional. And, again—some Canadian farmers have the farmyard and premises in a gratuitously rough and untidy condition, with ploughs, and harrows, and wagons, and logs of wood, and various other sorts of impedimenta left tumbling anywhere and anyhow about the place. Costly implements and machines and tools are left out in the weather—to be roasted in the sun or drenched in the rain, or smothered in the snow in all probability. I have heard of implements being put into a bunch in a field and, with a fire guard ploughed round them, left out all winter. I have seen a horse rake, a grass mower, a twine binder and a wagon pushed into a bluff of trees and there left to take their luck. And yet such people complain if their machines don't work well the following year. I don't think the inferior Canadian farmer cares to fill up his spare time in doing odd jobs around the place. If he did, his place would be more orderly than it is.



There are numerous natural meadows and swampy tracts of land where large quantities of hay may be cut free of charge ; hay, indeed, is cut to some extent, but when men can have all they want for the trouble of harvesting it, they seem to care nothing about it, and the harvesting is done in a slipshod fashion ; the hay is left out too long after it is cut, baking in the sun until its nutritive properties are greatly diminished ; indeed, the hay was still out in lumps in many places when the wheat was being cut. Well, the country is good enough, and it only remains for man to do his duty. "There is plenty of wood, water and hay and any amount of ploughable land," as one of my companions for the day correctly and tersely put it. The wheat yield was extraordinary this year. I heard, on what ought to be good authority, of a case where a farmer threshed out nine stooks of wheat, each stook having ten sheaves just as they came from the binder, ninety sheaves in all ; the yield of wheat was twelve and a half bushels. There are, of course, sheaves and sheaves, even from a binder, and these sheaves might have been just about as big as the binder could make them with comfort ; I only repeat the story as I heard it. Taxation amounts to \$28 per section of 640 acres, including bonus to railway ; this is  $4\frac{1}{2}$  cents, or  $2\frac{1}{4}$ d. per acre, and it covers everything. Not a few farmers came into this district about the year 1880, and having no market within reach, their little money slowly dribbled away ; now the railway has given them a market, and, being well rooted in the soil, as one may say, they are likely to prosper better than new comers ; at all events they ought to be able to do so. Since the "herd-law" came in force stock-farmers are beginning to fence their land, in order to save the trouble of herding their cattle, sheep and horses, and to prevent trespass on neighbors' crops ; for the owners of stock are responsible for the mischief it does. The fencing is almost invariably done with wooden posts and barbed wire.

The snug little town of Birtle is prettily situated in a well wooded valley, down which runs a stream called "Bird-tail Creek," of which Birtle is obviously an abbreviation. It is in fact on the Bird-tail, and is called Birtle for short. A grist-mill is on the stream ; and a lumber-mill, driven by steam, stands near the town. New houses are being put up, and, though Birtle may not for some time to come increase very much or very rapidly, it is already an important market town, and will surely hold its own in the future. It is only some ten miles east of Fort Ellice, a well known trading post of the Hudson's Bay Company.

I had the pleasure of meeting Dr. Barnardo up the line, en route to his new colony between Birtle and Russell. The location is well chosen, and the country is adapted for mixed farming. This sort of land is just the place for such a colony as Dr. Barnardo is establishing ; for young men who understand mixed farming will do for any part of the Dominion. Seven sections of land, or some 4,500 acres, have been secured, all of them well watered and wooded. The Doctor intends to locate a lot of his lads there, and have them trained for farming. Premises will be built at some central place, and the management of the colony will be in competent hands. A cheese factory will be established, and it is in contemplation to build a "cannery" to utilize the fruits which the country will so freely produce. The lads will be taught to do all kinds of farm work, from driving a plough to milking a cow ; and, as they become proficient, thirty acres of land will be allotted to each one who desires and deserves it, with thirty more to follow if advisable. Other lads will go out as farm servants, if they like, or they will be free to take up a home-stand of Government land. This new development of Dr. Barnardo's philanthropy appears to me to contain the elements of success, and it certainly deserves to be well supported.

**BINSCARTH.**—One hundred and fifty-five miles from Portage, and almost on the edge of the beautiful valley of the Assiniboine, the rising town of Binscarth stands. The country around is one of hills and dales to a great extent, and picturesque to a degree not too often met with in the North-West. There are numerous lakes and streams, and plenty of timber. The soil is a deep, black loam for the most part, suitable alike for crops and grass, and all kinds of farming live stock. An Indian reserve lies directly to the south-west of the town, and another to the east, about a dozen miles away. The Scottish Ontario and Manitoba Land Company own a large portion of three townships about the place, and on one of them the famous Binscarth Stock Farm is situated. The premises at this place, comprising church, hotel, houses, barns, work-shops, and other appurtenances, are situated on the edge of Silver Creek, which is certainly a beautiful valley. The farm is under the management of Mr. Smellie, and is in good hands. A large herd of pedigree shorthorns is kept on the farm, and among them are many animals of very considerable merit. One of them, a bull, "Prince Arthur" by name, is a long and level beast of excellent quality; he is big, massive, symmetrical, with grand quarters, well let down everywhere. He was sired by "Knight of Warlabay," and his live weight is 2,800 lbs. The object of the company is to disseminate good bovine blood throughout the country; and of course to make money. A considerable area of land is under crops which are subsidiary to the live stock. A well built barn, one of the biggest in the North-West, shelters the herd in winter. The cattle are in the basement, and overhead are compartments for hay and straw and grain, and the preparation of food for the stock. A huge avalanche of animal manure has tumbled headlong into the valley, and awaits the time when it will be wanted for the land. I saw a crop of swedes, many acres in extent, grown without manure; it would average quite thirty tons to the acre, I believe, and the mangels would be nearly as much. A strip of land running across the crops has been manured, and here the swedes and mangels were decidedly better than elsewhere. Some Canadian farmers tell one that the land needs no manure; my impression is that they say so as an excuse for not taking the trouble to apply it. No doubt there is land in Manitoba so rich in the elements of plant food as to grow good crops during a succession of years without manure. A few inches of subsoil brought up now and again, refertilises the surface no doubt; but there is no land which, after a few years' cropping, would not be all the better for a dressing of farm-yard dung. The most prolific and carefully tendered garden I have seen in the North-West, is at the Binscarth Farm. A large variety of vegetables were grown on a manured and well tilled soil; the crops were heavy, and free from weeds. As a matter of fact, the soil will grow excellent crops or almost any kind of garden or field produce, if only it has fair play and is well attended to. We drove round the country and called on a number of settlers.

**LANGENBURG.**—Another five and twenty miles and we reach the present western end of the road, 180 miles from Portage. Not far from the station a German cabinet-maker, Theuer by name, has homesteaded land, and, with his son and son-in-law, has built a superior house, and very substantial buildings for cattle and horses. These are people of some little capital, no doubt, and soon they will increase their store. In spring, summer, and autumn they attend to their land and stock as far as need be, and in winter earn money at their trade. Such people are sure to get on, and they are setting an example, sorely needed by settlers who prefer to hibernate in winter. The Germans, indeed, being a thrifty, ingenious, and industrious people, usually make good colonists, and there are a good many of them at Langenburg.



Various Colonization Societies have laid the scene of their labours in Manitoba and the North-West Territory. Their object has been to relieve the congested state of population in some parts of England, but they have not been always successful. Two of the better known of these societies have locations west of Langenburg, and it was with the object of inspecting them that I drove a distance of forty miles, or so, away west from the end of the line. The Churchbridge Colony, established under the auspices of "The Church Colonization Land Society, Limited," is situated in Assiniboia. The Society is a very influential one, and its object is "to carry out, in connection with the Church of England, a practical system of colonization on a self-supporting and remunerative basis—the settlers being assisted to attain independence, and the Society receiving a fair return on the capital—the whole being in our own colonies, under our own flag." The Churchbridge Colony is affiliated to the Albany Colony, and both of them are promoted by the same society.

"The mode of operation is to raise capital by issuing shares of £1 each (without further liability) for acquiring blocks of land for 40 to 160 acre farms, erecting houses thereon, and on the intermixed free homestead lands, breaking and sowing a portion, and providing stock and implements ready for the settlers; to purchase the whole, or to rent the 40-acre farms with option of purchase, at equitable prices, payable by installments. The land is suitable for grain and cattle farming."

In the Churchbridge Colony the settlers are placed on free grants of 160 acres of land, and are practically homesteaders who have houses put up for them by the society, and also implements and stock where needed, the whole outlay being secured by mortgage, which is redeemable by the settlers. This is the second and larger system, and in each the settler may enter on a farm on which the first necessities have been provided for him, and he can remain upon it or not as he chooses. It is understood that settlers will provide their own passage and outfit; yet probably some of them will receive direct or indirect assistance in these respects, though I am not in a position to say to what extent they will.

"If a settler under the first system quits his holding, he will leave his improvements behind him, for which the society may, but is not absolutely bound to, compensate him; each case would depend upon its merits. If a settler under the second system quits his free holding, provision is made by law for the mortgagee to take possession and put another settler in his place. There is, therefore, great inducement to stay, and provision against loss in case of quitting by any restless settler."

"The society does not collect and dispatch numbers of men, women and children to the colonies and leave them to shift for themselves, but does its best to select suitable emigrants; requires them to pay their passage out, or the greater part of it; provides them with homes on arrival, and a portion of their land broken and sown with food for the first year; assists them with cattle, implements and practical supervision; and finally looks after them spiritually as well as temporally, so that they shall not in going to a new country be utterly deprived of the social and religious advantages of the land of their fathers."

Fourteen houses have been provided at Churchbridge, small but comfortable houses of wood, and about sixty persons have arrived in the colony. Mr. Roberts, who hails from the neighborhood of Melton Mowbray, in Leicestershire, is a good example of what a colonist ought to be. He has put up a good store of hay, has done a good stroke of ploughing for next year's crop, and may be regarded as a pushing man who understands his work.



Others, too, there are who appear to be taking advantage of the facilities offered to them, and these no doubt will rub along pretty well in time. But, as I was informed, there are a few, as may be expected in any community of the kind, who appear to be more or less shiftless and improvident, possibly from ignorance of what a colonist must expect to do. "Are they idle?" I asked of a man who knew them well enough to give an opinion. "Well, no," said he; "but some of them seem to have been born tired." Whereat our party heartily laughed. Not all the settlers in any colony do well, and here as elsewhere men will find their true level in time. The land on which they are located appears to be fairly good; in configuration it is rolling, with bluffs of willow trees here and there, which will be useful for shelter, fencing, and for firewood. The country, where water is sufficient, is adapted for stock raising, and there are natural meadows on which hay may be cut for use in winter.

**THE COMMERCIAL COLONY.**—This settlement is within the Province of Assiniboia, immediately west of Churchbridge. It is promoted by a body of practical men, under the title of the "Commercial Colonization Company of Manitoba, Limited." The company own many sections of land in Manitoba, which they offer in large or small lots, as well as alternate sections in the three townships in Assiniboia, where the colony is located. The company states, with a degree of candor which inspires confidence, that "its purpose is commercial, not philanthropic." And in justification thereof it goes on to say, "Settlers, like men starting in business or building a house, may require more capital than they have got at the time. The builder borrows what he needs and gives a bond on his house as security. So the settler will get what help he needs to stock his farm, and give a bond on it as security. It is a purely business transaction, profitable alike to borrower and lender; and it is a transaction that must give many men just such a chance as will open the way for them to success and honorable independence."

And the prospectus says:—"But even when the land is got, and the colonist has transferred himself and his family to Manitoba, capital is still required to stock the farm, and to buy food and other necessities until the first crop is ready. It is here that so many settlers find the rub, and it is here that the Company comes to their assistance. Under an Act passed by the Canadian Parliament in 1886, and by an arrangement of this Company which has received the sanction of the Minister of the Interior, advances are made on the security of a settler's homestead (land and buildings) to the extent of \$600 (£120), bearing interest at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum. These advances are not made in cash, but in the form of houses, stock, implements, seed, or whatever the settler most requires. The interest, compared with the rates current in England and Scotland, seems high, but it must be borne in mind that interest in all *new* countries is very high, often much higher than 8 per cent., and also that the nature of the security is, in this case, exceptional. Considering, indeed, all that the Company does to smoothe the path of the colonist, a higher rate would not be unreasonable. However, 8 per cent. is the rate sanctioned by the Act of Parliament, and may therefore be regarded as just."

Houses are being erected for settlers before they start to Canada, and are ready for them to enter on arrival.

This country is rolling and uneven as to surface, with numerous lakes and innumerable bluffs of trees, and in many places it is quite park-like in appearance. There are tracts of flat land intermixed, and also low lying marshes on which hay may be cut. The land,

indeed, is undulating, and rolling, and almost hilly in places, with small, flat portions intervening; it is well sheltered by bluffs of poplar and willow, well watered by lakes and occasional streams, and there are natural meadows and pastures. There are various kinds of soil, from gravelly to loamy soils, and it is needless to say the latter are the better; but, as a rule, a black loam prevails, interspersed with one inclining a little to sand, each of them well adapted to any kind of crop. The black soil is full of the accumulated vegetable remains of many centuries, and it will not easily be exhausted. Horses, cattle and sheep thrive well on the land; and very satisfactory crops of wheat, oats, swedes, carrots, potatoes, and so on, are grown under a very simple and elementary system of cultivation.

The district, as it appeared to me, is well adapted to what is known as "mixed farming"—that is for pastures and meadows, with more or less of arable land for the growth of crops subsidiary to stock-raising and dairy farming. I am in possession, too, of excellent reasons for supposing that horse ranching, at all events on a limited scale, might be made to pay well in this part of the country. Horses are hardier than cattle or sheep, and among the sheltering bluffs they will winter well on what they find beneath the snow. In various parts of the Northwest, indeed, I was assured by reliable and practical men that horses come out fat in the spring, though living entirely on what they have found. At the present time, odd as it may sound to say so, horses are dearer in Canada than in England; I believe that horse ranching is bound to pay if pursued with judgment.

We drove a considerable distance through the country, spending one night in the Yorkton Colony, at Anderson's farm. Mr. Anderson is from Scotland, and was twelve years in Rhode Island, U.S.A.; four years ago he came up here and has 320 acres of good land, the first half of which was homesteaded, and the second pre-empted at \$2 an acre. He considers Canada a better country than Scotland for men who have to fight their way, and likes it better than Rhode Island. The best sort of men to come out, he thinks, supposing they have no capital, are farm laborers willing to work. Such men in a very few years would have a farm clear of debt, after which they would save money tolerably fast. His health, and that of his wife and children, is better than it was in the United States, and he feels that now he has found a place where his days will end at last. His farm runs down to a beautiful lake, named after him, which abounds with wild duck. In winter, when the lake is frozen over, a hole is cut through the ice and covered with boards and a thick coating of snow, to prevent freezing; during the night the water wells up to the surface, and the cattle drink at the hole for weeks. Mrs. Anderson's only complaint was that there was no school at present within reach of her rather formidable number of children, but she was hoping there would be one pretty soon; settlers were coming in tolerably fast, and Government follows them up pretty quickly with schools.

Returning to Langenburg the following day we drove through a different part of the country, calling on farmers by the way. Mr. Fisher, of Kimbrae, formerly of Salisbury, England, appears to be comfortably located. He has forty head of horned cattle, some good Cotswold sheep, and plenty of implements, whose covering was mostly the sky. I weighed two potatoes to  $3\frac{1}{4}$  lbs., one shapely swede to  $11\frac{1}{2}$  lbs., and one common turnip to  $16\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. We saw also some good garden stuff, and a few nice little porkers of Berkshire blood. Later on we crossed the curious Cut Arm Creek and the beautiful valley of the Assiniboine. I have an impression that sheep will do well in the valley of the Assiniboine, and in the district generally, where the land is dry.



The impressive stillness and solitude of a night on the prairie has, after all, a weird and singular charm of its own. The moon is bright and the air transparent—just the sort of time to enjoy a pipe and an hour's quiet thought. All is still—for the wind dies away in the evening in the Northwest—not the sound of a bird or anything; but, hark! through the warm, pure air comes from a distance a sound as of children laughing; then it dies away; again it comes from a distance that seems lessened, and we strain our eyes in that direction. It is the coyotes or prairie wolves out on a frolic; but they will not come near enough for a shot; in fact, they are half a mile or more away on the plain. Presently a dog barks, and the cackling fun of the coyotes ceases; we listen for it again but it comes no more, and at last we turn into bed and sleep.

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*(From the Financial News, London, Eng., Feb. 8, 1888.)*

Manitoba is likely to derive many indirect, as well as direct, benefits from its splendid wheat harvest of last year. All the farmers have been put in funds, the Canadian railways have been overwhelmed with traffic, and a great stimulus has been given to the business in the Northwest. These have been the immediate effects; but there are a good many others to follow. Next spring there is likely to be a larger immigration in Manitoba than even during the boom of 1882. Young farmers in Ontario and Quebec will go west in search of fresh fields and pastures new. They begin to see that in wheat growing the Eastern Provinces have no longer a chance against the Red River Valley and the rich prairie lands beyond it. A large increase of European immigration may be quite as confidently expected. Germans, Danes, Norwegians, and even Poles, have been finding their way to what used to be called the Great Lone Land, but is a lone land no longer. It has been filling up gradually with hardy settlers, who have made for themselves comfortable homes, where only a few years ago, the buffalo ranged at large. Not only will the new comers require homesteads, but existing settlers will be eager to increase their holdings. Every dollar of profit made on last year's crop will be invested in more land, which is the only savings bank of the country.

What with a large wheat traffic coming down and a stream of immigrants going west, the Canadian railways should do well all next spring. . . . Most people in this country have heard of no other road in the Northwest than the Canadian Pacific, and they assume that it is the only one. Of late there has been some amusing controversy about its supposed monopoly in Manitoba. Not one in a dozen of loquacious disputants seems to have been aware of the existence of another railway in the Province quite independent of the Canadian Pacific, and, though a much smaller road, having the promise of an equally prosperous future.

The Manitoba and Northwestern branches off from the main line of the Canadian Pacific at Portage la Prairie, and runs northwest for a distance of 180 miles toward the Saskatchewan river. It traverses what are called "the park lines of the fertile belt," and has opened up one of the finest farming countries in the whole Northwest. A historical interest attaches to its route, for it is the one originally intended to be taken by the C. P. R. Even then the country was pretty well settled, and in the first surveys of the Dominion Government engineers the line was to make a bend to the north, where the Manitoba and Northwestern is now. When the syndicate took over the enterprise they had new surveys made, and, for engineering reasons, they located their line further south than the Govern-



ment route. The settlers in the Minnedosa district were, of course, indignant at being shunted, and to appease them a concession was granted for a branch line. Sir Hugh Allan and his friends took it in charge, and when about 130 miles had been built they negotiated in London an issue of bonds on it at the rate of £3,000 per mile. The security they had to offer was much more substantial than is customary among prairie roads. To begin with, they had a land grant from the Dominion Government of ten square miles, or 6,400 acres, for every mile of road built. This amounted on the 130 miles to 832,000 acres, the greater part of which was an absolute free gift, while the rest was subject to a charge of \$1 per acre in favor of the Government of Manitoba. The road itself had been solidly built, laid throughout with steel rails, well equipped and finished in every respect to the satisfaction of the Canadian Government engineers. . . . .

The road, which was then newly opened, is now doing a very large and profitable business. The lands have sold well and at profitable prices. . . . . The sales of the past two years have also been very satisfactory, having yielded an average of two and a half dollars per acre. The land department of the Company has been conducted with great energy and skill, the best class of settlers having been selected in Northern Europe and taken over under the supervision of the Company's own agents. In the coming spring a special campaign will be made among the Danes, Germans and Norwegians who begin to exhibit a great partiality for the Northwest. The land sales are expected to double or treble those of any former year, and later on the business of the road will increase proportionately. . . . .

The Manitoba and Northwestern Railway, standing on its own feet and with only its own territory to depend on, has every assurance of becoming a valuable property.











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